



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

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9
10 **Abstract:** Rate coefficients for the reactions of OH radicals with C3-C11 alkanes were
11 determined using the multivariate relative rate technique in various bath gases (N₂, Air,
12 O₂). A total of 25 relative rate coefficients at room temperature and 24 Arrhenius
13 expressions in the temperature range of 273-323 K were obtained. Notably, a new room
14 temperature relative rate constant for 3-methylheptane that had not been previously
15 reported were determined, and the obtained K_{OH} values (in units of 10⁻¹² cm³·molecule⁻¹·s⁻¹)
16 in different bath gases were N₂, 7.90±0.25; Air, 7.93±0.33; and O₂, 7.36±0.11.
17 Interestingly, whilst results for n-alkanes agreed well with available structure activity
18 relationship (SAR) calculations, the three cyclo-alkanes and two trimethylpentane were
19 found to be less reactive than predicted by SAR. Conversely, the SAR estimate for 2,3-
20 dimethylbutane were approximately 22% lower than the experimental value,
21 highlighting that the limited understanding of the oxidation chemistry of these
22 compounds. Arrhenius expressions (in units of cm³·molecule⁻¹·s⁻¹) for the reactions of
23 various cyclo- and branched alkanes with OH were determined for the first time:
24 methylcyclopentane, $(1.62 \pm 0.14) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(256 \pm 25)/T]$; 2-
25 methylhexane, $(1.22 \pm 0.04) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(206 \pm 9)/T]$; 3-
26 methylhexane, $(2.27 \pm 0.31) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(559 \pm 42)/T]$; 2-methylheptane,
27 $(1.62 \pm 0.37) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(265 \pm 70)/T]$, and 3-methylheptane,
28 $(3.54 \pm 0.45) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(374 \pm 49)/T]$. In addition, the rate coefficients for the 24



29 previous studied OH + alkanes reactions in different bath gases were consistent with
30 existing literature values, demonstrating the reliability and efficiency of this method for
31 simultaneous investigation of gas-phase reaction kinetics.

32 **Keywords:** Relative rate coefficients; Atmospheric simulation chamber; Alkanes; OH
33 radical; Arrhenius expressions

34 1. Introduction

35 Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), a category of compounds found ubiquitously
36 in the atmosphere, primarily consist of alkanes, alkenes, aromatics and oxygenated
37 volatile organic compounds (OVOCs) (Lewis et al., 2000; Goldstein and Galbally, 2007;
38 Anderson et al., 2004). Research has shown that alkanes, including straight-chain,
39 branched-chain, and cyclic alkanes within the C₃-C₁₁ range, often constitute a
40 significant portion. For example, recent studies conducted by Liang et al. and Dunmore
41 et al. in major cities in China and the U.K. have indicated that C₂-C₁₂ alkanes make
42 up 66.5% and 50% of the local hydrocarbon content, respectively (Liang et al., 2023;
43 Dunmore et al., 2015). The primary mechanism for alkanes removal involves hydrogen
44 abstraction reactions with OH· and NO₃·, and the dehydrogenation of alkanes leads to
45 the formation of alkyl radicals (R·), which subsequently react with O₂ to generate
46 alkylperoxy radicals (RO₂·). It should be pointed that the rate constants for the reaction
47 of alkanes with OH· (K_{OH}) fall in the range of 0.9 to 11×10⁻¹² cm³·mol⁻¹·s⁻¹, which is
48 approximately five orders of magnitude faster than the reaction with NO₃·. The reaction
49 with OH radicals stands as the principal pathway for the atmospheric oxidation of
50 alkanes during the daytime. Thus, accurately determining rate constants with OH
51 radicals is fundamental in evaluating their environmental impact (Finlayson-Pitts and
52 Pitts, 1997; Atkinson, 2000).

53 Numerous laboratories have conducted research on the kinetics of the reaction
54 between alkanes and OH radicals using the absolute rate constant method and the
55 relative rate constant method. The absolute rate constant method involves calculating
56 the reaction kinetics parameter K_{OH} for organic compounds with OH radicals during



57 the experimental process by directly measuring changes in OH radical concentration or
58 the concentration of the target compound. Greiner measured the first kinetic data for
59 the reaction of OH radicals with three alkanes in the Ar system at 300 K using the flash
60 photolysis-resonance fluorescence technique (Greiner, 1967). Over the next decade,
61 Gorse et al., Overend et al. and Darnall et al. obtained kinetic data for the reaction of
62 OH radicals with selected alkanes in the carbon monoxide, He and N₂ system,
63 respectively (Gorse and Volman, 1974; Overend et al., 1975; Darnall et al., 1978). Due
64 to the challenge of directly detecting OH radicals with very short lifetimes, the absolute
65 rate method is used less frequently. Alternatively, the relative rate method does not
66 require precise VOC concentration levels or direct detection of OH radicals, and this
67 approach is more widely used to determine K_{OH} values for organic compounds. From
68 1980s to 2010s, dozens of papers for the rate coefficients of alkanes with OH measured
69 by relative rate method have been published. For example, Shaw et al. and Phan and Li
70 obtained rate constants of a series of alkanes in the N₂/He system (Phan and Li, 2017;
71 Shaw et al., 2018; Shaw et al., 2020). Anderson et al. obtained the K_{OH} of C₂-C₈ several
72 n-alkanes and cyclic alkanes by the relative technique in the air system at 296 ± 4 K
73 (Anderson et al., 2004). However, the majority of experiments were conducted solely
74 on C₂-C₆ alkanes, more complex and multifunctional alkanes are often poorly
75 constrained or unmeasured.

76 Temperature has an important influence on the reaction rate constants of alkanes and
77 OH radicals. The reaction rate constants of several n-alkanes with OH radicals
78 measured by Greiner increased by about 70% in the range of 300-500 K (Greiner,
79 1970a). Perry et al's research found that the rate constants of n-butane multiplied by
80 72% as the temperature rose from 297 K to 420 K (Perry et al., 1976). And the rate
81 coefficients of 10 n-alkanes and cycloalkanes obtained by Donahue et al. also increased
82 in varying degrees at 300-390 K (Donahue et al., 1998). However, most reported
83 experimental studies on the reactivity of OH radicals with a series of alkanes focus on
84 temperatures ≥290 K (Greiner, 1970a; Perry et al., 1976; Finlaysonpitts et al., 1993;
85 Donahue et al., 1998; Atkinson, 2003; Badra and Farooq, 2015), with relatively few
86 studies at low temperatures (Demore and Bayes, 1999; Li et al., 2006; Wilson et al.,



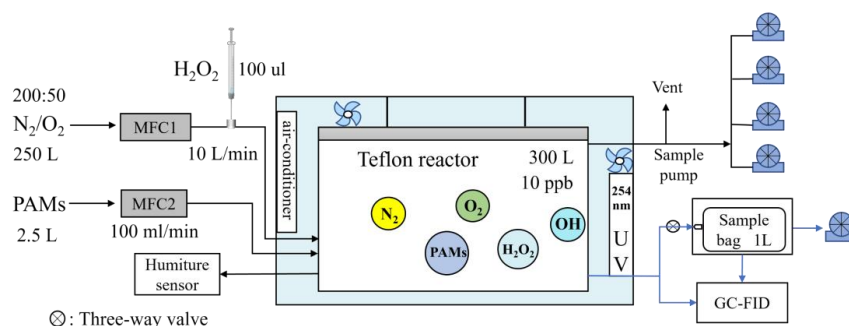
87 2006; Sprengnether et al., 2009; Crawford et al., 2011). In addition, a further alkane
88 had only two, or fewer, individual OH rate coefficient measurements available in the
89 mentioned temperature range, e.g., 3-methylheptane, and it is unclear whether the rate
90 constants for the reactions of OH radicals with alkanes differ in a mixed system
91 containing oxygen compared to an inert gas system. Therefore, further investigations
92 are required to explore the variations in the rate constants for different types of alkanes
93 at various temperatures in different bath gases.

94 In this study, the rate constants for the reactions of 25 different C3-C11 alkanes with
95 OH radicals were determined using the multivariate relative rate method under different
96 bath gases (N_2 , Air, O_2), including linear alkanes, cycloalkanes, and methyl-alkanes. To
97 validate the data and investigate the effect of O_2 on the rate constants for the reaction
98 between alkanes and OH radicals, multiple comparisons were made with previous
99 literature and structure-activity relationship (SAR) estimated values. Additionally, the
100 rate constants of certain straight-chain, branched-chain, and methyl-cycloalkanes were
101 measured at 273-323 K.

102 2. Methods

103 2.1 Experiment

104 2.1.1 Atmospheric simulation chamber



105
106
107

Figure 1. A schematic of the experimental device

As shown in Fig. 1, the chamber experiments were performed at atmospheric



108 pressure in a climate-controlled box with a temperature range of 263-333 K (accuracy
109 of ± 0.1 K). A 300 L Teflon airbag was suspended in the climate-controlled box to serve
110 as the reaction system. The box was equipped with two Teflon-coated fans for rapid
111 chemical mixing and a 254 nm ultraviolet lamp for photolysis of hydrogen peroxide
112 (H_2O_2) to produce OH radicals. The inner walls of climate-controlled box were
113 constructed with reflective steel plates to enhance ultraviolet light utilization. Bath gas
114 (N_2 or O_2) and NMHCs were introduced into the Teflon bag through mass flow
115 controllers with flow rate of 25 L min^{-1} and 100 mL min^{-1} , respectively, while excess
116 H_2O_2 was injected through a three-way valve using a micro syringe. Initial conditions
117 of the different species introduced into the reactor for each experiment are outlined in
118 Table S1 in the Supplementary Material. By varying the presence of H_2O_2 , turning
119 on/off the light, a series of observations were generated, such as $\text{N}_2 + \text{NMHCs} + \text{dark}$
120 reaction, $\text{N}_2 + \text{NMHCs} + h\nu$ (254 nm), and $\text{N}_2 + \text{NMHCs} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{dark}$ reaction.

121 2.1.2 Gas sampling and analysis

122 NMHCs Analyzer (GC-FID) with a time resolution of 1 hour independently
123 developed by the Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences (RCEES) was used
124 to analyze 25 C3-C11 alkanes. The sample gas was enriched by a 60-80 mesh
125 Carbopack B adsorption tube under the condition of 183.15 K, and then the adsorption
126 tube was rapidly heated to 453.15 K. The 25 alkanes were detected by FID at 523.15 K
127 after programmed heating at 253.15 K, 303.15 K and 433.15 K in 30 min (Liu et al.,
128 2016).

129 Figure S1(a) reveals that the mixed gas diluted with N_2 underwent a 14-hour reaction
130 in a Teflon reactor without light. The K_d values ranged from 0.00013 to 0.00048 ppbv/h,
131 implying negligible influence from factors such as alkane loss from reactor walls, self-
132 consumption, or airbag leakage. Figure S1(b) illustrates that the peak height variation
133 for 25 alkanes + 50 μl of H_2O_2 within 15 hours was less than 3%, indicating the
134 insignificance of dark reactions between H_2O_2 and alkanes. When the same
135 concentration mixed gas was irradiated for 7 hours without H_2O_2 , alkane concentration



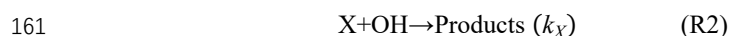
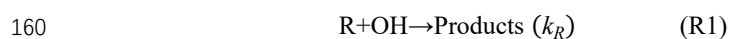
136 changes were depicted in Fig. S2. The results indicated that minimal impact from alkane
137 photolysis on OH radical reaction rate constant determination.

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

147 2.1.3 Relative rate technique

148 The rate coefficients were measured by the relative rate method (Atkinson, 1986).
149 The basic principle is that the rate constant for the reaction of the reactant used as a
150 reference with OH radicals is known, rate constant for the reaction of OH radicals with
151 the target compound can be determined by monitoring the simultaneous decay of the
152 target and reference compounds in the presence of OH radicals due to the competitive
153 response mechanism. To ensure that the reactants only react with OH radicals, the OH
154 radicals need to be in excess in the experiment. The research method of this work is
155 improved and expanded based on the multivariate relative rate method published by
156 Shaw et al. (Shaw et al., 2018), taking the mixed system as the research object,
157 broadening the range of compounds that can be examined.

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



162
$$-\frac{d[\text{R}]}{dt} = k_R[\text{OH}][\text{R}] \quad (\text{R3})$$

163
$$-\frac{d[\text{X}]}{dt} = k_X[\text{OH}][\text{X}] \quad (\text{R4})$$



164
$$\ln\left(\frac{[R]_0}{[R]_t}\right) = k_R \cdot \int [OH] dt \quad (R5)$$

165
$$\ln\left(\frac{[X]_0}{[X]_t}\right) = k_X \cdot \int [OH] dt \quad (R6)$$

166
$$\ln\left(\frac{[X]_0}{[X]_t}\right) = \frac{k_X}{k_R} \cdot \ln\left(\frac{[R]_0}{[R]_t}\right) \quad (R7)$$

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

172 2.1.4 Choice of reference k values

173 It is critical to choose appropriate reference compounds in a kinetics study using
174 the relative rate technique. Some reported values of the rate constants for reactions of
175 C3-C11 alkanes with OH radicals have been measured by different methods in different
176 laboratories, and these measurement results may be quite different. When these rate
177 constants are measured by the relative rate technique, choosing different reference
178 values will lead to a change of the final experimental target rate constants. In this work,
179 selecting 3 different commonly used reference compounds (n-Hexane, Cyclohexane, n-
180 Octane) to determine the rate constants for each reaction at room temperature to check
181 the consistency of kinetic results. The selection of k values for reference compounds
182 and literature comparison comes from several data sets in the NIST chemical kinetics
183 database (<https://kinetics.nist.gov/kinetics/>). Among them, at 298 ± 1 K, the k values
184 (in units of $\text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$) of the three reference compounds selected respectively
185 are $k_{\text{OH}+\text{n-Hexane}} = 5.20 \times 10^{-12}$, which is derived from Atkinson et al (Atkinson and Arey,
186 2003), updated data evaluation value; $k_{\text{OH}+\text{Cyclohexane}} = 7.14 \times 10^{-12}$, $k_{\text{OH}+\text{n-Octane}} = 8.48 \times 10^{-12}$,
187 and the selection of k values of cyclohexane and n-octane is most consistent with the
188 rate constant of cyclohexane and octane obtained by using n-hexane as reference.



189 However, the value of the reference compound at different temperatures (273-323 K)
190 is different than the room temperature. A detailed explanation is reflected in Sec. 3.3.

191 2.1.5 Materials

192 The air bath gas was obtained by a mix of nitrogen (200 L) and oxygen (50L).
193 H₂O₂ (30%) was provided by Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd. The standard gas
194 (PAMs) is a mixed standard sample of 57 kinds of NMHCs produced by Linde Spectra
195 Environmental Gases (Alpha, NJ). Sampling bag (PVF, 1 L) was provided by Dalian
196 Delin Gas Packing Co., Ltd. The pump is the NMP830 KNDC model produced by KNF,
197 Germany, with a maximum air sampling rate of 23 L/min. The climate-controlled box
198 (ZRG-1000D-C0203) is provided by Shanghai Proline Electronic Technology Co., Ltd.

199 **2.2 Estimation of the rate constant at 298 K (SAR)**

200 In the past few decades, researchers have been devoted to finding a reasonable
201 theoretical estimation method for the kinetic rate constants (Cohen, 1991). Structure-
202 Activity Relationship (SAR) established and developed by Kwok and Atkinson et al.
203 (Kwok and Atkinson, 1995), is the most widely used estimation method of rate
204 constants. Based on the relationship between the structure and the reaction activity of
205 the compounds, this method assumes that the hydrogen extraction reaction mainly
206 occurs in the saturated compounds and the addition reaction mainly occurs in the
207 unsaturated compounds, which is used to estimate the gaseous rate constants for the
208 reactions of most VOCs with OH radicals. An advantage of the rate constant estimation
209 is that it gives a measure of the rates of attack at different sites in the molecule, which
210 is then useful in predicting the overall temperature dependence. The rate constant
211 estimated by SAR method is in good agreement with the experimental data. The general
212 error is 2σ . In this relationship, the calculation of the rate constant of the hydrogen atom
213 on the C-H bond is based on the evaluation of the rate constant of the -CH₃, -CH₂-,
214 >CH- group. The relationship between the group structure and the rate constant is as
215 follows:



$$\begin{aligned} 216 \quad & K(\text{CH}_3\text{-X})=K_{\text{prim}}^0 F(X) \\ 217 \quad & K(\text{X-CH}_2\text{-Y})=K_{\text{sec}}^0 F(X)F(Y) \\ 218 \quad & K(\text{X-CH(Y)Z})=K_{\text{tert}}^0 F(X)F(Y)F(Z) \\ 219 \quad & K_{\text{tot}} = \sum [K(\text{CH}_3\text{-X})+K(\text{X-CH}_2\text{-Y})+K(\text{X-CH(Y)Z})] \end{aligned}$$

220 Where, K_{tot} represents the rate constant of each target compound. K_{prim}^0 , K_{sec}^0 ,
221 K_{tert}^0 represent the rate constants of each $-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2-$ and $>\text{CH}-$. For standard
222 substituent groups such as $-\text{CH}_3$, $F(-\text{CH}_3)=1.00$, X, Y and Z represent substituent
223 groups, $F(X)$, $F(Y)$ and $F(Z)$ refer to the activity coefficient of substituents (X, Y, Z)
224 at different positions on carbon groups. At room temperature, $F(-\text{CH}_2-)=1.23$,
225 $F(>\text{CH-})=1.23$. Additionally, Wilson et al. (Wilson et al., 2006) conducted extensive
226 experiments to obtain the new fundamental rate constants for different positional
227 groups based on the method of Atkinson and Kwok et al.

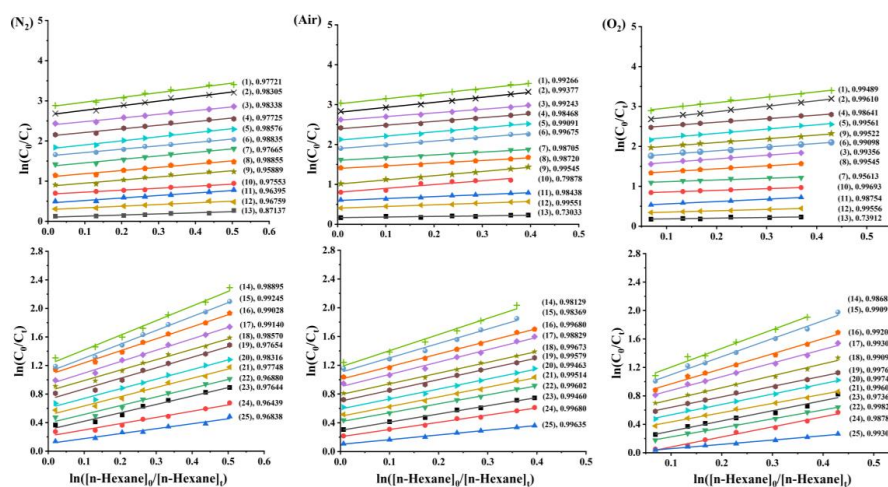
228 3. Result and Discussion

229 3.1 Results from relative rate experiments with different bath gases at 230 298 K

231 The rate constants for the reactions involving OH with C3-C11 alkanes in the
232 mixed system with three different bath gas environments (N_2 , Air, O_2) were determined
233 at 298 ± 1 K. The concentration curves of target alkanes and the reference compound (n-
234 Hexane) were plotted in Fig. 2. As shown in Fig. 2, the decay of both target and
235 reference compounds correlated well with eq. (7), and high correlation coefficients (R^2)
236 were observed for most alkanes, exceeding 0.99. Table 1 listed the obtained K_{OH} for
237 C3-C11 alkanes under three bath gases using the related reference compounds. The
238 error strip (σ) in Table 1 accounted for data fitting dispersion, reference rate constant
239 uncertainty, and experimental parameter uncertainties (pressure, temperature, flow rate,
240 reactant concentration). The results indicated strong agreement (within $<15\%$) between
241 rate constants for 25 C3-C11 straight-chain, branched-chain, and cycloalkanes, using



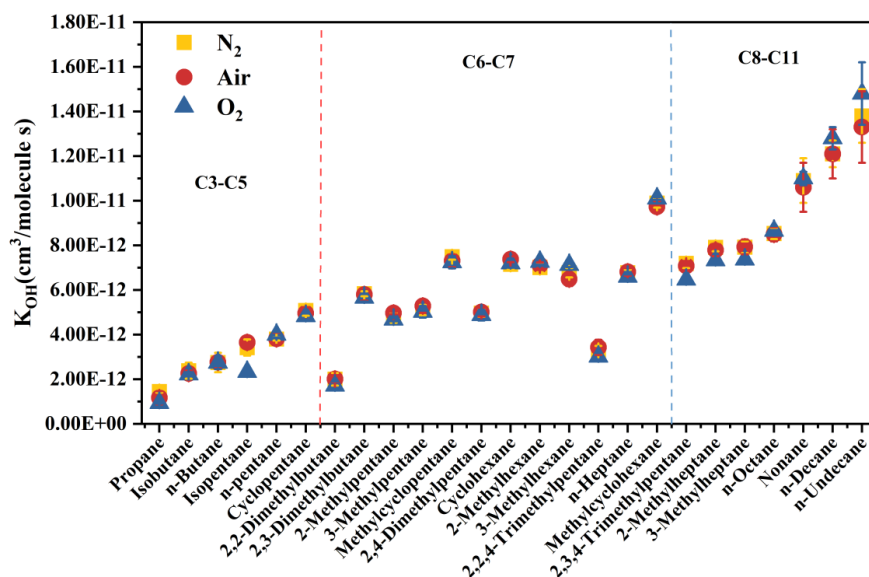
242 different reference compounds. For example, the K_{OH} obtained for propane with n-
243 hexane, cyclohexane and n-octane as the reference compound were $(1.45 \pm 0.01) \times 10^{-12}$,
244 $(1.34 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{-12}$ and $(1.47 \pm 0.17) \times 10^{-12}$, respectively (within 10%). This suggests
245 that reference compound variation minimally affects results, indicating reliable
246 experimental methods and data. Notably, the rate constant for 3-Methylheptane's
247 reaction with OH radicals at room temperature was determined for the first time. As
248 shown in Fig. 3, for the different bath gases, the obtained K_{OH} for C3-C11 alkanes
249 showed high agreement. Additionally, it can be clearly seen in the figure that the
250 reactivity of linear alkanes (RCH_2R) with OH radicals increasing as the number of
251 carbon atoms in the hydrocarbon molecules increases, indicating that the increase of R-
252 terminal alkyl chain length will provide additional hydrogen extraction sites.



253
254 Figure 2. Typical kinetic data as acquired with the multivariate relative rate
255 technique at 298 K and a fixed reaction time of 70 min for the reaction of C3-C11
256 alkanes with the OH radical using n-hexane as reference compound in different bath
257 gases (N_2 , Air, O_2). The numbers in parentheses correspond to each substance, followed
258 by the correlation coefficient R^2 . The following data have been displaced for reasons of
259 clarity: (N_2): (1) Methylcyclopentane, (2) Cyclohexane, (3) Cyclopentane, (4) 2-
260 Methylpentane, (5) 2,3-Dimethylbutane, (6) 2,4-Dimethylpentane, (7) Isopentane, (8)
261 1-pentane, (9) 3-Methylpentane, (10) Isobutane, (11) n-Butane, (12) 2,2-
262 Dimethylbutane, (13) Propane (14) n-Undecane, (15) n-Decane, (16) Nonane, (17)



263 Methylcyclohexane, (18) n-Octane, (19) 3-Methylheptane, (20) 2-Methylheptane, (21)
264 2,3,4-Trimethylpentane, (22) 1-Heptane, (23) 2-Methylhexane, (24) 3-Methylhexane,
265 (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,
267 respectively; (Air) Each alkane (in the above order) vertically displaced by 3, 2.8, 2.6,
268 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,
269 0.1 units, respectively; (O₂) Each alkane (in the above order) vertically displaced by
270 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,
271 0.1 units, respectively (Not mentioned defaults to 0).



272

273 Figure 3. Rate constants of C3-C11 alkanes in different bath gases (N₂, Air, O₂)
274 at 298±1 K. The error bar was taken as σ .

275 The obtained K_{OH} values for C3-C11 alkanes were compared with literature-
276 reported values (Table 1). For several n-alkanes, such as n-butane, the average rate
277 constants obtained in different bath gases are (2.75±0.43), (2.76±0.27), (2.74±0.29),
278 respectively, the unit is 10⁻¹² cm³·molecule⁻¹·s⁻¹. The result is highly consistent with the
279 value (2.72±0.27) obtained by Perry et al using flash photolysis resonance fluorescence
280 technique in an Ar system, with a consistency of 2% or better (Perry et al., 1976).
281 Although slightly higher by 6% and 10% compared to the values obtained by Greiner



282 (Greiner, 1970a) and Talukdar et al. (Talukdar et al., 1994) using absolute techniques
283 in inert gases (2.56 ± 0.25 , 2.46 ± 0.15), when considering the errors, they still exhibit
284 consistency within a certain range. Compared to the value obtained by DeMore et al.
285 (Demore and Bayes, 1999) using the relative rate method (2.36 ± 0.25), these values are
286 higher by 13%, it is considered that be caused by experimental error.

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

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

298 **n-Decane.** The obtained average K_{OH} for n-decane in $N_2/Air/O_2$ systems were
299 (1.21 ± 0.06), (1.21 ± 0.11) and (1.28 ± 0.05), respectively, the unit is $10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$.
300 When considering experimental error, these results are consistent with the relative
301 value (1.29 ± 0.10) obtained by Li et al. (Li et al., 2006) in a He system and the reviewed
302 value (1.10) of Atkinson and Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003), with about a consistency
303 of 6%-9%.

304 **n-Undecane.** The measured average K_{OH} for n-decane in 3 bath gas systems were
305 (1.38 ± 0.05), (1.33 ± 0.16) and (1.48 ± 0.14), respectively, the unit is $10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$.
306 The data in the oxygen system is about 11% higher than that in the air system. It
307 is about 8% higher than the previous research (Atkinson and Arey, 2003;
308 Sivaramakrishnan and Michael, 2009; Calvert et al., 2015).

309 For the cycloalkanes, like cyclopentane, the average rate constants are 5.08 ± 0.24 ,
310 4.96 ± 0.27 , 4.82 ± 0.14 , respectively, the unit is $10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$. The results are
311 in excellent agreement (5% or better) with the reviewed value (4.97) of Atkinson and



312 Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003) and the relative values (4.83, 4.84) of DeMore et al.
313 (Demore and Bayes, 1999) and Singh et al. (Singh et al., 2013) and the absolute value
314 (5.02) of Droege et al. (Droege and Tully, 1987). And the obtained K_{OH} values for
315 cyclohexane are highly consistent (3% or better) with the absolute values (7.14×10^{-12} ,
316 7.19×10^{-12}) obtained by Droege and Tully and Sprengnether et al. (Droege and Tully,
317 1987; Sprengnether et al., 2009). However, this result is slightly higher than the relative
318 value by about 5%-16%. Like the relative values measured by DeMore and Bayes
319 (Demore and Bayes, 1999) or Wilson et al. (Wilson et al., 2006) were 6.70×10^{-12} and
320 6.38×10^{-12} , respectively. It worth noting that the K_{OH} value for methylcyclopentane in
321 this work is highly consistent (within 3% to 5%) with the absolute data reported by
322 Sprengnether et al. (Sprengnether et al., 2009). However, it is lower by approximately
323 15% to 18% compared to the relative data obtained by Anderson et al. (Andersen et al.,
324 2003). The K_{OH} values for methylcyclohexane are excellent agreement (3% or better)
325 with other values reported by Atkinson and Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003) and Calvert
326 et al. (Calvert et al., 2015).

327 Furthermore, for several less studied branched alkanes, such as 2-Methylhexane,
328 3-Methylhexane, and 2-Methylheptane, there is only one study reported so far.
329 Sprengnether et al. (Sprengnether et al., 2009) conducted a study on 2-Methylhexane
330 and 3-Methylhexane and obtained K_{OH} values at room temperature for the first time,
331 which were 6.30×10^{-12} and 6.69×10^{-12} , respectively. Our results are about slightly
332 higher by approximately 3% to 6% compared to their values. However, the data for 2-
333 Methylheptane in this work is lower by about 17% compared to the value reported by
334 Shaw et al. (Shaw et al., 2018).



335 Table 1. Comparison of Experimental in this work with the reported in the literature
 336 and Estimated Alkane Rate Constants Based on the Present SAR Calculations in the
 337 different bath gases (N₂, Air, O₂) at 298±1 K.

Alkanes	Bath gas	Reference	This work		Reference	SAR	
			$K_{OH}/K_{reference} \pm 1\sigma$	$K_{OH} \pm 1\sigma$ ($\times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3$ $\text{molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$)	$K_{OH-av}^a \pm 1\sigma$ ($\times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3$ $\text{molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$)	K_{OH} ($\times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3$ $\text{molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$)	K_{OH} ($\times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3$ $\text{molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$)
Propane	N ₂	n-Hexane	0.278±0.001	(1.45±0.01)			
		Cyclohexane	0.187±0.004	(1.34±0.03)	(1.45±0.05)		
		n-Octane	0.174±0.020	(1.47±0.17)			
	Air	n-Hexane	0.190±0.033	(1.66±0.50)		1.11 ^{bcd}	
		Cyclohexane	0.200±0.070	(1.10±0.20)	(1.17±0.30)	1.09 ^e	1.27
		n-Octane	0.172±0.057	(1.16±0.26)		1.91 ^f (1.15±0.15) ^g	
O ₂	n-Hexane	0.178±0.002	(0.927±0.012)				
	Cyclohexane	0.133±0.004	(0.960±0.026)	(0.933±0.027)			
	n-Octane	0.109±0.008	(0.925±0.065)				
Isobutane	N ₂	n-Hexane	0.451±0.052	(2.35±0.27)			
		Cyclohexane	0.392±0.038	(2.47±0.53)	(2.38±0.36)		
		n-Octane	0.282±0.053	(2.39±0.45)			
	Air	n-Hexane	0.451±0.052	(2.31±0.06)		2.12 ^h	
		Cyclohexane	0.315±0.008	(2.27±0.06)	(2.26±0.13)	2.22 ⁱ	2.44
		n-Octane	0.282±0.053	(2.24±0.04)		(2.34±0.33) ^j	
O ₂	n-Hexane	0.422±0.004	(2.19±0.02)				
	Cyclohexane	0.312±0.002	(2.24±0.02)	(2.22±0.09)			
	n-Octane	0.262±0.006	(2.22±0.05)				
n-Butane	N ₂	n-Hexane	0.511±0.071	(2.65±0.37)			
		Cyclohexane	0.423±0.120	(3.02±0.85)	(2.75±0.44)	(2.36±0.25) ^b	
		n-Octane	0.343±0.084	(2.91±0.71)		(2.72±0.27) ^k	2.63
	Air	n-Hexane	0.516±0.025	(2.68±0.13)		(2.56±0.25) ^m	
		Cyclohexane	0.418±0.038	(3.01±0.27)	(2.76±0.27)	(2.46±0.15) ^d	
		n-Octane	0.345±0.042	(2.93±0.36)			



Isopentane	O ₂	n-Hexane	0.517±0.032	(2.69±0.17)	(2.74±0.29)	3.60 ^e 3.65 ^h 3.50 ^f 3.80 ^e 3.98 ⁿ 4.03 ^o (3.97±0.20) ^p (4.20±0.15) ^g	4.04
		Cyclohexane	0.396±0.039	(2.85±0.28)			
		n-Octane	0.333±0.044	(2.82±0.37)			
	N ₂	n-Hexane	0.715±0.038	(3.72±0.31)	(3.42±0.36)		
		Cyclohexane	0.434±0.061	(3.12±0.44)			
		n-Octane	0.363±0.054	(3.08±0.46)			
	Air	n-Hexane	0.684±0.033	(3.56±0.17)	(3.65±0.25)		
		Cyclohexane	0.512±0.026	(3.66±0.19)			
		n-Octane	0.442±0.025	(3.75±0.22)			
n-pentane	O ₂	n-Hexane	0.446±0.020	(2.32±0.10)	(2.33±0.07)		
		Cyclohexane	0.330±0.012	(2.38±0.09)			
		n-Octane	0.275±0.001	(2.32±0.01)			
	N ₂	n-Hexane	0.777±0.036	(4.04±0.19)	(3.80±0.07)		
		Cyclohexane	0.533±0.006	(3.83±0.04)			
		n-Octane	0.448±0.001	(3.80±0.01)			
	Air	n-Hexane	0.730±0.057	(3.79±0.29)	(3.81±0.27)		
		Cyclohexane	0.527±0.021	(3.79±0.15)			
		n-Octane	0.454±0.029	(3.85±0.24)			
O ₂	n-Hexane	0.754±0.011	(3.92±0.06)	(3.99±0.13)			
	Cyclohexane	0.558±0.005	(4.01±0.04)				
	n-Octane	0.467±0.012	(3.96±0.10)				
Cyclopentane	N ₂	n-Hexane	0.976±0.051	(5.08±0.26)	(5.08±0.24)		
		Cyclohexane	0.702±0.019	(5.05±0.14)			
		n-Octane	0.605±0.019	(5.13±0.16)			
	Air	n-Hexane	0.951±0.033	(4.94±0.17)	(4.96±0.27)		
		Cyclohexane	0.674±0.040	(4.85±0.29)			
		n-Octane	0.674±0.040	(5.09±0.24)			
	O ₂	n-Hexane	0.924±0.007	(4.80±0.04)	(4.82±0.14)		
		Cyclohexane	0.673±0.010	(4.84±0.07)			
		n-Octane	0.576±0.014	(4.89±0.12)			
2,2-Dimethylbutane	N ₂	n-Hexane	0.382±0.027	(1.98±0.14)	(2.00±0.28)		
		Cyclohexane	0.292±0.055	(2.10±0.39)			
		n-Octane	0.237±0.035	(2.01±0.30)			
	Air	n-Hexane	0.409±0.019	(2.13±0.10)	(2.01±0.14)		
		Cyclohexane	0.301±0.030	(2.17±0.22)			
		n-Octane	0.264±0.031	(2.00±0.03)			



		n-Hexane	0.327±0.015	(1.70±0.08)			
	O ₂	Cyclohexane	0.238±0.016	(1.71±0.11)	(1.71±0.19)		
		n-Octane	0.204±0.015	(1.73±0.13)			
		n-Hexane	1.092±0.064	(5.68±0.33)			
	N ₂	Cyclohexane	0.815±0.005	(5.86±0.03)	(5.83±0.11)		
		n-Octane	0.687±0.002	(5.83±0.02)			
2,3-Dimethylbutane	Air	n-Hexane	1.095±0.061	(5.69±0.32)		5.78 ^e	4.55
		Cyclohexane	0.798±0.035	(5.74±0.25)	(5.80±0.27)	(6.14±0.25) ^p	
		n-Octane	0.690±0.019	(5.85±0.16)		6.03 ^h	
	O ₂	n-Hexane	1.093±0.018	(5.68±0.09)			
		Cyclohexane	0.786±0.008	(5.65±0.06)	(5.65±0.17)		
		n-Octane	0.650±0.01	(5.52±0.17)			
N ₂	n-Hexane	0.913±0.017	(4.75±0.09)				
	Cyclohexane	0.662±0.035	(4.76±0.25)	(4.75±0.22)			
	n-Octane	0.557±0.024	(4.72±0.20)				
2-Methylpentane	Air	n-Hexane	0.972±0.022	(5.06±0.11)		5.2 ^e	5.45
		Cyclohexane	0.660±0.004	(4.74±0.03)	(4.97±0.06)	(5.25±0.25) ^p	
		n-Octane	0.586±0.001	(4.97±0.01)		5.00 ^f	
	O ₂	n-Hexane	0.899±0.001	(4.67±0.01)			4.75 ^s
		Cyclohexane	0.646±0.003	(4.65±0.02)	(4.67±0.07)		
		n-Octane	0.535±0.007	(4.54±0.06)			
N ₂	n-Hexane	1.000±0.035	(5.20±0.18)				
	Cyclohexane	0.707±0.015	(5.08±0.11)	(5.10±0.23)			
	n-Octane	0.913±0.017	(4.92±0.29)				
3-Methylpentane	Air	n-Hexane	1.014±0.030	(5.27±0.16)		5.20 ^e	5.73
		Cyclohexane	0.762±0.051	(5.37±0.41)	(5.28±0.31)	(5.54±0.25) ^p	
		n-Octane	0.617±0.065	(5.23±0.55)		4.93 ^s	
	O ₂	n-Hexane	0.973±0.039	(5.06±0.21)			
		Cyclohexane	0.701±0.025	(5.04±0.18)	(5.02±0.26)		
		n-Octane	0.582±0.028	(4.94±0.24)			
N ₂	n-Hexane	1.455±0.044	(7.56±0.23)				
	Cyclohexane	0.957±0.004	(7.50±0.03)	(7.49±0.13)			
	n-Octane	0.881±0.005	(7.47±0.04)		(7.65±0.10) ^u		
methylcyclopentane	Air	n-Hexane	1.432±0.053	(7.45±0.28)		(8.60±0.30) ^p	8.75
		Cyclohexane	1.007±0.023	(7.24±0.16)	(7.31±0.29)	(8.60±2.20) ^t	
		n-Octane	0.876±0.049	(7.43±0.41)			



		n-Hexane	1.404±0.046	(7.30±0.24)			
	O ₂	Cyclohexane	1.044±0.004	(7.26±0.20)	(7.24±0.28)		
		n-Octane	0.881±0.005	(7.10±0.31)			
		n-Hexane	0.967±0.025	(5.03±0.13)			
	N ₂	Cyclohexane	0.706±0.017	(5.07±0.13)	(4.96±0.17)		
		n-Octane	0.580±0.007	(4.92±0.06)			
2,4-Dimethylpentane	Air	n-Hexane	0.962±0.012	(5.00±0.06)		4.80 ^e	
		Cyclohexane	0.708±0.042	(5.09±0.30)	(5.01±0.20)	5.51 ^s	5.02
		n-Octane	0.596±0.026	(5.05±0.22)		(5.76±0.40) ^p	
	O ₂	n-Hexane	0.944±0.032	(4.91±0.17)			
		Cyclohexane	0.706±0.017	(5.07±0.13)	(4.87±0.24)		
		n-Octane	0.564±0.026	(4.79±0.22)			
Cyclohexane	N ₂	n-Hexane	1.392±0.102	(7.24±0.26)			
		Cyclohexane	--	--	(7.15±0.23)		
		n-Octane	0.842±0.008	(7.14±0.07)		6.97 ^e	
	Air	n-Hexane	1.410±0.009	(7.33±0.05)		7.14 ^q	
Cyclohexane		--	--	(7.38±0.13)	6.38 ^h	8.48	
n-Octane		0.872±0.022	(7.39±0.19)		6.70 ^b		
						(7.19±0.10) ^u	
						(6.85±0.20) ^p	
	O ₂	n-Hexane	1.401±0.017	(7.22±0.05)			
		Cyclohexane	--	--	(7.19±0.19)		
		n-Octane	0.830±0.013	(7.04±0.11)			
2-Methylhexane	N ₂	n-Hexane	1.366±0.055	(7.10±0.29)			
		Cyclohexane	0.996±0.011	(7.16±0.17)	(7.01±0.22)		
		n-Octane	0.820±0.011	(6.95±0.09)			
	Air	n-Hexane	1.369±0.004	(7.12±0.02)			
Cyclohexane		0.986±0.032	(7.04±0.23)	(7.11±0.13)	(6.69±0.10) ^u	6.86	
n-Octane		0.820±0.025	(6.95±0.13)				
	O ₂	n-Hexane	1.415±0.015	(7.36±0.08)			
		Cyclohexane	1.020±0.022	(7.34±0.15)	(7.26±0.16)		
		n-Octane	0.852±0.006	(7.22±0.05)			
3-Methylhexane	N ₂	n-Hexane	1.310±0.022	(6.81±0.11)			
		Cyclohexane	0.938±0.023	(6.74±0.16)	(6.77±0.21)		
		n-Octane	0.794±0.015	(6.73±0.13)			
						(6.30±0.10) ^u	7.15
	Air	n-Hexane	1.248±0.025	(6.49±0.13)			
Cyclohexane		0.892±0.098	(6.41±0.71)	(6.49±0.31)			
n-Octane		0.807±0.122	(6.84±1.03)				



		n-Hexane	1.401±0.017	(7.28±0.09)			
	O ₂	Cyclohexane	1.007±0.019	(7.24±0.14)	(7.12±0.10)		
		n-Octane	0.840±0.002	(7.12±0.02)			
		n-Hexane	0.655±0.030	(3.41±0.15)			
	N ₂	Cyclohexane	0.458±0.026	(3.29±0.18)	(3.30±0.19)		
		n-Octane	0.384±0.018	(3.26±0.15)			
2,2,4- Trimethyl pentane		n-Hexane	0.674±0.057	(3.50±0.30)		3.34 ^e	
	Air	Cyclohexane	0.471±0.051	(3.38±0.36)	(3.43±0.34)	3.64 ^s	4.64
		n-Octane	0.396±0.043	(3.36±0.37)		(3.34±0.25) ^p	
						(3.71±0.10) ^v	
	O ₂	n-Hexane	0.587±0.019	(3.05±0.10)			
		Cyclohexane	0.421±0.018	(3.03±0.13)	(3.01±0.17)		
		n-Octane	0.352±0.008	(2.98±0.07)			
n-Heptane		n-Hexane	1.302±0.004	(6.77±0.02)			
	N ₂	Cyclohexane	0.937±0.029	(6.74±0.21)	(6.77±0.13)		
		n-Octane	0.789±0.017	(6.69±0.14)			
	Air	n-Hexane	1.280±0.066	(6.66±0.34)		6.76 ^e	
		Cyclohexane	0.941±0.021	(6.77±0.15)	(6.81±0.17)	6.68 ^v	6.87
		n-Octane	0.804±0.005	(6.81±0.04)		6.80 ^h	
					(6.70±0.15) ^g		
Methylcyclohexane	O ₂	n-Hexane	1.271±0.004	(6.61±0.02)			
		Cyclohexane	0.912±0.004	(6.56±0.03)	(6.59±0.11)		
		n-Octane	0.760±0.012	(6.45±0.10)			
	N ₂	n-Hexane	1.914±0.070	(9.95±0.37)			
		Cyclohexane	1.381±0.010	(9.93±0.07)	(9.89±0.20)		
		n-Octane	0.789±0.017	(9.80±0.11)			
2,3,4- Trimethyl pentane	Air	n-Hexane	1.906±0.098	(9.91±0.51)		9.60 ^e	
		Cyclohexane	1.349±0.012	(9.70±0.09)	(9.73±0.25)	(9.64±0.30) ^p	10.20
		n-Octane	1.190±0.042	(10.10±0.40)		(11.8±1.00) ^f	
						(9.50±0.14) ^d	
	O ₂	n-Hexane	1.944±0.025	(10.10±0.20)		(9.29±0.10) ^u	
		Cyclohexane	1.400±0.007	(10.10±0.50)	(10.10±0.60)		
		n-Octane	1.165±0.023	(9.88±0.20)			
2,3,4- Trimethyl pentane	N ₂	n-Hexane	1.383±0.013	(7.19±0.07)			
		Cyclohexane	0.997±0.043	(7.17±0.31)	(7.19±0.21)		
		n-Octane	0.839±0.028	(7.16±0.24)		6.60 ^e	8.54
	Air	n-Hexane	1.381±0.021	(7.18±0.11)		6.50 ^h	
		Cyclohexane	0.968±0.037	(6.96±0.26)	(7.08±0.22)	(6.60±0.26) ^p	
		n-Octane	0.823±0.014	(6.98±0.12)			



		n-Hexane	1.266±0.032	(6.58±0.16)				
	O ₂	Cyclohexane	0.908±0.031	(6.53±0.22)	(6.46±0.21)			
		n-Octane	0.757±0.010	(6.42±0.09)				
		n-Hexane	1.521±0.009	(7.91±0.05)				
	N ₂	Cyclohexane	1.123±0.053	(8.07±0.38)	(7.91±0.18)			
		n-Octane	0.856±0.033	(7.83±0.20)				
2-Methylheptane	Air	n-Hexane	1.532±0.062	(7.97±0.32)		9.10 ^L	8.28	
		Cyclohexane	1.061±0.029	(7.63±0.21)	(7.79±0.28)			
		n-Octane	0.931±0.025	(7.89±0.21)				
	O ₂	n-Hexane	1.444±0.017	(7.51±0.09)				
		Cyclohexane	1.037±0.021	(7.45±0.15)	(7.33±0.04)			
		n-Octane	0.865±0.001	(7.33±0.01)				
N ₂	n-Hexane	1.525±0.022	(7.93±0.11)					
	Cyclohexane	1.099±0.054	(7.84±0.38)	(7.90±0.25)				
	n-Octane	0.921±0.026	(7.81±0.22)					
3-Methylheptane	Air	n-Hexane	1.532±0.070	(7.97±0.37)		--	8.90	
		Cyclohexane	1.094±0.068	(7.87±0.49)	(7.93±0.33)			
		n-Octane	0.935±0.270	(7.93±0.23)				
	O ₂	n-Hexane	1.448±0.001	(7.53±0.10)				
		Cyclohexane	1.040±0.024	(7.48±0.17)	(7.36±0.11)			
		n-Octane	0.867±0.002	(7.35±0.02)				
N ₂	n-Hexane	1.651±0.043	(8.58±0.22)					
	Cyclohexane	1.186±0.012	(8.53±0.08)	(8.53±0.25)				
	n-Octane	--	--					
n-Octane	Air	n-Hexane	1.680±0.038	(8.74±0.20)		8.11 ^e	8.28	
		Cyclohexane	1.142±0.030	(8.21±0.22)	(8.50±0.32)	8.42 ^m		
		n-Octane	--	--		(8.48±0.10) ^z		
	O ₂	n-Hexane	1.666±0.013	(8.66±0.07)				
		Cyclohexane	1.199±0.019	(8.62±0.14)	(8.65±0.22)			
		n-Octane	--	--				
N ₂	n-Hexane	2.124±0.057	(11.00±0.30)					
	Cyclohexane	1.505±0.032	(10.80±0.30)	(10.90±1.00)	9.70 ^e			
	n-Octane	1.241±0.063	(10.50±0.50)		10.20 ^A	9.70		
Air	n-Hexane	2.166±0.079	(11.30±0.40)		10.70 ^w			
	Cyclohexane	1.406±0.040	(10.10±0.30)	(10.60±1.10)	(11.30±1.10) ^z			
	n-Octane	1.263±0.046	(10.70±0.40)					



n-Decane	O ₂	n-Hexane	2.117±0.002	(11.00±0.10)	(11.00±0.30)	11.00 ^e (12.9±1.00) ^z	11.10
		Cyclohexane	1.525±0.011	(11.00±0.10)			
		n-Octane	1.269±0.012	(10.80±0.10)			
	N ₂	n-Hexane	2.355±0.078	(12.20±0.40)	(12.10±0.60)		
		Cyclohexane	1.690±0.006	(12.10±0.10)			
		n-Octane	1.392±0.047	(11.80±0.40)			
	Air	n-Hexane	2.371±0.073	(12.30±0.40)	(12.10±1.10)		
		Cyclohexane	1.601±0.059	(11.50±0.40)			
		n-Octane	1.437±0.033	(12.20±0.30)			
n-Undecane	O ₂	n-Hexane	2.506±0.028	(13.00±0.20)	(12.80±0.50)	12.30 ^e 12.50 ^B (11.90±2.00) ^p	12.50
		Cyclohexane	1.804±0.034	(13.00±0.20)			
		n-Octane	1.503±0.004	(12.70±0.10)			
	N ₂	n-Hexane	2.685±0.042	(14.00±0.30)	(13.80±1.20)		
		Cyclohexane	1.843±0.092	(13.30±0.70)			
		n-Octane	2.685±0.042	(13.00±0.90)			
	Air	n-Hexane	2.594±0.251	(13.50±1.30)	(13.30±1.60)		
		Cyclohexane	1.797±0.100	(12.90±0.70)			
		n-Octane	1.588±0.076	(13.50±0.60)			
O ₂	n-Hexane	2.805±0.179	(14.60±0.90)	(14.80±1.40)			
	Cyclohexane	2.079±0.118	(15.00±0.80)				
	n-Octane	1.738±0.046	(14.70±0.40)				

338 a: Weighted average $k_{av} = (w_{ref1}k_{ref1} + w_{ref2}k_{ref2} + \dots) / (w_{ref1} + w_{ref2} + \dots)$, where

339 $w_{ref1} = 1/\sigma_{ref1}^2$, etc. The error, σ_{av} , was given by: $\sigma_{av} = (1/\sigma_{ref1} + 1/\sigma_{ref2} + \dots)^{-0.5}$.

340 b: (Demore and Bayes, 1999); c: (Mellouki et al., 1994); d: (Talukdar et al., 1994); e:

341 (Atkinson and Arey, 2003); f: (Cox et al., 1980); g: (Morin et al., 2015); h: (Wilson et

342 al., 2006); i: (Tully et al., 1986); j: (Edney et al., 1986); k: (Perry et al., 1976); m:

343 (Greiner, 1970a); n: (Donahue et al., 1998); o: (Harris and Kerr, 1988); p: (Calvert et

344 al., 2015); q: (Droege and Tully, 1987); r: (Singh et al., 2013); s: (Badra and Farooq,

345 2015) u: (Sprengnether et al., 2009); t: (Anderson et al., 2004); v: (Greiner, 1970b), y:

346 (Crawford et al., 2011); z: (Li et al., 2006); L: (Shaw et al., 2020); w: (Atkinson et al.,

347 1982); A: (Ferrari et al., 1996); B: (Sivaramakrishnan and Michael, 2009); D: (Bejan et

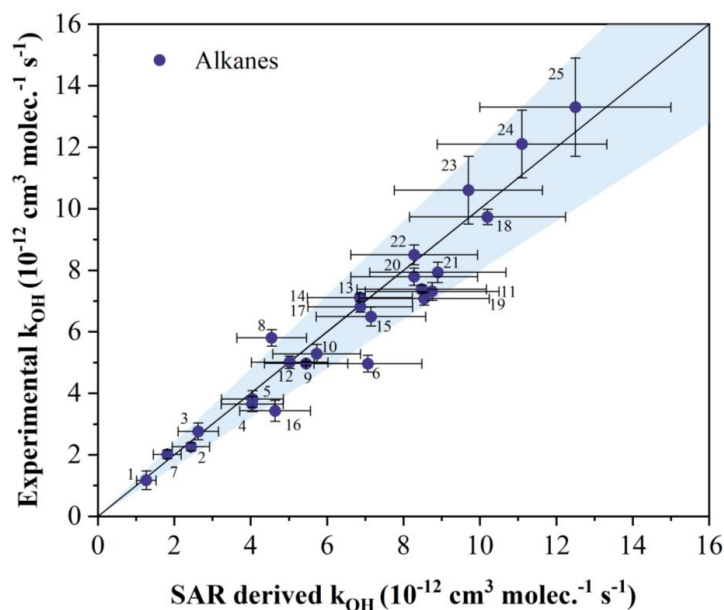
348 al., 2018); F: (Ballesteros et al., 2015).

349 3.2 Comparisons to structure–activity relationships



350 Based on an extensive review of kinetic literature values for linear alkanes at room
351 temperature, Atkinson and Kwok et al derived the values of K_{prim}^0 , K_{sec}^0 , K_{tert}^0 at room
352 temperature, $K_{\text{prim}}^0=0.136\times 10^{-12}$, $K_{\text{sec}}^0=0.934\times 10^{-12}$, $K_{\text{tert}}^0=1.94\times 10^{-12}$, the unit is
353 $\text{cm}^3\cdot\text{molecule}^{-1}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$. Figure 4. compared rate constants for OH radical reactions with 25
354 alkanes across the Air system along with estimated SAR values (Atkinson, et al and
355 Wilson et al) at 298 ± 1 K. The shaded area demonstrates a 20 % uncertainty in the 1:1
356 black gradient line. Most n-alkanes fall into the shaded area, indicating high agreement
357 for n-alkanes' K_{OH} rate coefficients with the SAR values, especially C3-C8 n-alkanes
358 (about within 8%). Some longer straight-chain alkanes like Nonane, n-Decane, and n-
359 Undecane exhibited slightly higher K_{OH} values (around 10%) compared to the
360 estimated SAR values, implying that longer R-terminal alkyl chains offer more
361 hydrogen extraction sites than SAR estimates. For branch alkanes, such as 3-
362 Methylheptane and 2,3,4-Trimethylpentane, the SAR values were about 12% and 20%,
363 respectively higher than the K_{OH} values obtained in air bath gas. On the other hand, the
364 obtained K_{OH} values for methylcyclopentane and cyclohexane were about 14% and
365 16%, respectively, lower than the SAR values, indicating that the reaction activity of
366 these cycle-chain alkanes estimated using SAR might be overestimated.

367 As shown in Fig. 4, the outliers are cyclopentane, 2,3-Dimethylbutane and 2,2,4-
368 Trimethylpentane, respectively. The obtained K_{OH} values of Cyclopentane and 2,2,4-
369 Trimethylpentane were about 30%, 26%, respectively, lower than the corresponding
370 SAR values. Nevertheless, the SAR estimate for 2,3-Dimethylbutane is approximately
371 22% lower than the experimental value obtained in this study. Interestingly, in the
372 estimation by Wilson et al. (Wilson et al., 2006), it was also found that the K_{OH} of this
373 compound (at 298 K) could not be accurately estimated by the same methodology due
374 to unknown reasons. This phenomenon indicates that our understanding for the
375 oxidation chemistry of these compounds is still limited, still need a lot of experimental
376 data for alkanes with this structure to confirm.



377

378 Figure 4. Measured Alkanes + OH rate coefficients plotted against SAR-derived rate
379 coefficients for all compounds. The shaded area demonstrates a 20 % uncertainty in the
380 1:1 black gradient line. The alkanes represented by serial number can be identified as
381 follows: (1) Propane; (2) Isobutane; (3) n-Butane; (4) Isopentane; (5) n-pentane; (6)
382 Cyclopentane; (7) 2,2-Dimethylbutane; (8) 2,3-Dimethylbutane; (9) 2-Methylpentane;
383 (10) 3-Methylpentane; (11) Methylcyclopentane; (12) 2,4-Dimethylpentane; (13)
384 Cyclohexane; (14) 2-Methylhexane; (15) 3-Methylhexane; (16) 2,2,4-
385 Trimethylpentane; (17) n-Heptane; (18) Methylcyclohexane; (19) 2,3,4-
386 Trimethylpentane; (20) 2-Methylheptane; (21) 3-Methylheptane; (22) n-Octane; (23)
387 Nonane; (24) n-Decane; (25) n-Undecane.

388 3.3 Temperature dependence (273-323 K)

389 This study also explored kinetic temperature dependence in the tropospheric range
390 (273-323 K), and n-hexane (Arrhenius expression: $K=(2.43\pm 0.52)\times 10^{-11} \exp [-(481.2\pm 60)/T]$ at 240-340 K was used as the reference compound. Measured values for
391
392 24 C3-C10 alkanes in N₂/air systems were provided at different temperatures (273-323



393 K) in Table S2. And the preexponential factor A and activation energy E_a/R obtained by
 394 linear regression along with the values of the literature were listed in Table 2. The value
 395 of preexponential factor A increases with the increase of the number of carbon atoms,
 396 which is consistent with the law of its reactivity. Additionally, Arrhenius plots were
 397 linearly fitted using this data along with literature data. The following is a detailed
 398 analysis for several components that are important or temperature dependence data has
 399 been less or no studied, the Arrhenius plots are shown in Figure 4-5, other components
 400 are listed in the Supplement (Fig. S3-S15).

401 Table 2. Summary of Arrhenius Expression of the Reaction of $\text{OH}\cdot$ with C3-C11
 402 alkanes in this work and other studies.

Alkanes	Temperature (K)	A-factor ^a ($\times 10^{-11}$)	E_a/R^b (K)	Bath gas	Technique ^c	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 ₂	FID	
	240-1220	$1.66 \times 10^{-17} T^2$	407		Review	(Atkinson and Arey, 2003)
	250-1366	$1.3 \times 10^{-12} (T/298)^{2.08}$	426	Ar	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)
Methylcyclopentane	220-1292	$2.287 \times 10^{-17} T^{1.958}$	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 ₂	FID	
	230-370	--	--	--	AR/DF/LIF	(Sprengher 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 ₂	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)
3-Methylheptane	240-340	2.25±0.14	293±37	He	RR/DF/MS	(Crawford et al., 2011)
	248-896	$2.7 \times 10^{-16} T^{1.7}$	138	He/H ₂ /NO ₂	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 ₂	FID	



n-Octane	273-323	4.22±0.49	497±34	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		4.12±0.77	487±55	N ₂	FID	
	240-340	2.27±0.21	296±27	He	RR/DF/MS	(Li et al., 2006)
	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)
Propane	273-323	2.38±0.90	952±110	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		2.31±0.81	947±102	N ₂	FID	
	296-908	2.72×10 ⁻¹² T ^{1.46}	270	NO ₂ /H ₂ O	AR/FP/LIF	(Bryukov et al., 2004)
	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 ₂	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 ₂	FID		
Isobutane	300 - 390	0.626	321	N ₂	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)
	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	5.24×10 ⁻¹⁵ T ^{1.125}	--	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 ₂	FID	
	235 - 361	1.68	584	Ar	RR/DP/GC	(Demore and Bayes, 1999)
n-Butane	300 - 390	1.34	513	N ₂	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 ₂ O	AR-UV	(Gordon and Mulac, 1975)
Isopentane	273-323	1.46±0.17 1.20±0.21	443±34 388±52	Air N ₂	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
	213-407	1.52	432	N ₂	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	273-323	0.90±0.05 1.73±0.20	310±17 502±35	Air N ₂	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
n-pentane	233-364	1.94	494	Ar	RR/DP/GC	(Demore and Bayes, 1999)
	300-390	2.97	608	N ₂	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)
	224-372	3.13×10 ⁻¹⁷ T ²	-115	He	AR/FP/LIF	(Talukdar et al., 1994)
Cyclopentane	243-325	--	--	N ₂ /O ₂ /NO	RR/DP/GC	(Harris and Kerr, 1988)
	273-323	3.67±0.63 3.48±0.51	619±51 608±43	Air N ₂	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
	288-407	2.71	526	N ₂ /H ₂ 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	Ar	RR/DP/GC	(Demore and Bayes, 1999)
2,2-Dimethylbutane	300-390	1.88	352	N ₂	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)
	295-491	4.50×10 ⁻¹⁵ T ^{1.21}	511	He	AR/FP/LIF	(Droege and Tully, 1987)
	273-323	3.53±1.28 4.76±1.21	899±106 986±74	Air N ₂	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
	240-330	3.37	809		Review	(Atkinson and Arey, 2003)
	243-328	--	--	N ₂ /O ₂ /NO	RR/DP/GC	(Harris and Kerr, 1988)
2-Methylpentane	254-1327	1.11×10 ⁻¹⁷ T ^{2.09}	79	Ar	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)
	273-323	2.30±0.29 2.27±0.34	479±38 478±44	Air N ₂	RR/DP/GC- FID	This work
	283-387	2.07	413	N ₂	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
3-Methylpentane	273-323	2.44±0.39 2.45±0.56	511±17 500±67	Air N ₂	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work



	284-381	2.16	375	N ₂	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±0.17 1.60±0.26	452±24 382±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±0.59	522±48	Air N ₂	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
cyclohexane	240-340	3.96±0.60	554±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±0.08 1.22±0.04	222±19 206±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±1.45 2.27±0.31	575±161 559±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±0.22 1.23±0.11	499±40 418±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±0.58 2.99±0.30	475±29 364±39	Air N ₂	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
Methylcyclohexane	273-343	1.85±0.27	195±20	Air	RR/DP/FTIR	(Bejan et al., 2018)
	230-379	--	--	--	AR/ DF/LIF	(Sprengnether et al., 2009)
	273-323	1.34±0.07 1.22±0.08	203±15 175±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±1.33 1.62±0.37	536±102 265±70	Air N ₂	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
2-Methylheptane						



Nonane	273-323	5.29±0.63	520±35	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		2.75±0.27	325±29	N ₂	FID	
	240-340	4.35±0.49	411±32	He	RR/DF/MS	(Li et al., 2006)
n-Decane	273-323	5.78±0.49	499±25	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		3.59±0.40	353±33	N ₂	FID	
	240-340	2.26±0.28	160±36	He	RR/DF/MS	(Li et al., 2006)

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

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

408

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

413 $K_{3\text{-Methylheptane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (4.12 \pm 0.77) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(487 \pm 55)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$,

414 $K_{3\text{-Methylheptane}}^{\text{Air}} = (4.21 \pm 0.49) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(497 \pm 34)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$. These results

415 agree well with the Arrhenius expression of $(4.52 \pm 0.37) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(538 \pm 27)/T]$
 416 $\text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ reported by Wilson et al. (Wilson et al., 2006) between 284 and 384

417 K, but contrast the expressions of $(2.27 \pm 0.21) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(296 \pm 27)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
 418 $\text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ reported by Li et al. between 240 and 340 K (Li et al., 2006) and

419 $(2.57) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(332 \pm 65)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ reported by Greiner (Greiner, 1970a)
 420 between 296 and 497 K. Further investigations are necessary to understand the
 421 discrepancies amongst these studies.

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



428 $K_{n\text{-Heptane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (2.59 \pm 0.37) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(422 \pm 43)/T]$ $\text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$,

429 $K_{n\text{-Heptane}}^{\text{Air}} = (3.96 \pm 0.38) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(544 \pm 28)/T]$ $\text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$. These results agree

430 well with the Arrhenius expression of $(3.38 \pm 0.17) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(497 \pm 16)/T]$

431 $\text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ reported by Wilson et al. (Wilson et al., 2006) between 241 and 406

432 K.

433 **C. OH+ Isopentane.** As Fig. 5 (c), isopentane was extensively studied in both the

434 nitrogen and air systems over a temperature range (273-323 K). As far as we know, at

435 present, only Wilson et al. has reported this compound in the range of 213-407 K

436 (Wilson et al., 2006). Our data is slightly 10% lower than that reported by Wilson et al.,

437 but this is still within the margin of error, especially at high temperatures. The Arrhenius

438 expression obtained by fitting the data points in the figure is as follows:

439 $K_{\text{Isopentane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (1.20 \pm 0.21) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(443 \pm 34)/T]$ $\text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$,

440 $K_{\text{Isopentane}}^{\text{Air}} = (1.46 \pm 0.17) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(497 \pm 34)/T]$ $\text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$. The results are

441 similar to the relative experimental results of Wilson et al.

442 $(1.52 \pm 0.21) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(432 \pm 27)/T]$ $\text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$.

443 **D. OH+ 2,3-Dimethylbutane.** Figure 5 (d) shows the Arrhenius plot for the

444 reaction of 2,3-Dimethylbutane with OH radicals in the nitrogen and air systems over

445 the temperature range of 273 K to 323 K. The temperature-dependent values obtained

446 in this study align closely with those reported by Badra and Farooq (Badra and Farooq,

447 2015), who used the absolute rate technique in an inert gas system (Ar), as well as the

448 work of Sivaramakrishnan and Michael with a three-parameter fit (Sivaramakrishnan

449 and Michael, 2009). However, in comparison to the reviewed data from Atkinson and

450 Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003), our results were found to be approximately 3% to 7%

451 lower. Rate constants are subjective and are in the range $\pm 20\text{-}30\%$. This discrepancy can

452 primarily be attributed to differences in the selected rate constants for reference

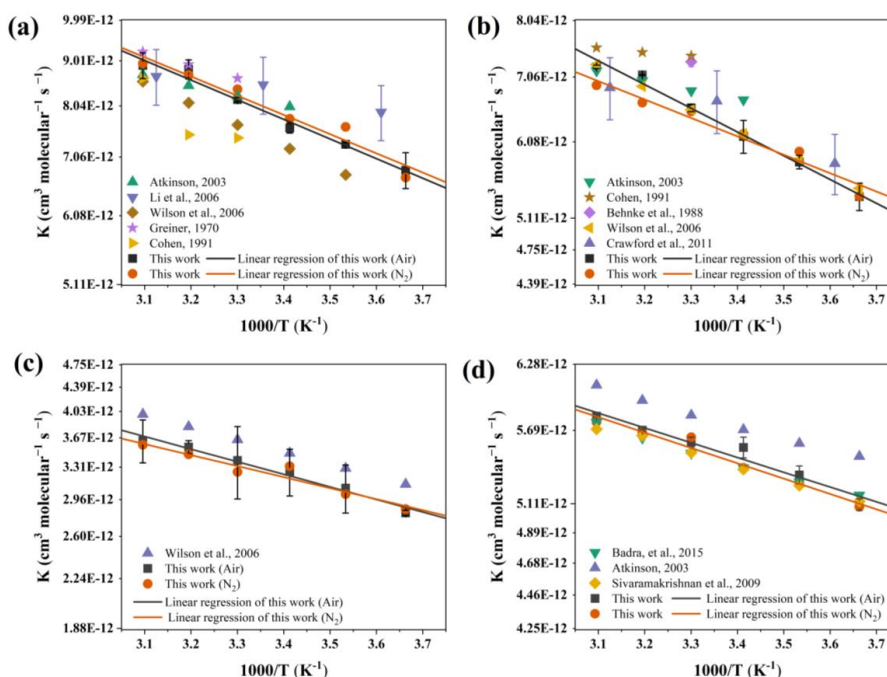
453 compounds. Take 298K as an example, the reference value selected in the reviewed data

454 of Atkinson (Atkinson, 1986) is in the range of 5.02×10^{-12} - 5.45×10^{-12} , while in this

455 work, we choose n-hexane as the reference, its K_{OH} value is 4.84×10^{-12} , and the



456 reference k value is reduced by about 4%-13%. However, since 1986, the rate constants
 457 of most of the alkanes obtained have decreased by about 10%. Linear regression applied
 458 to our data yields the Arrhenius expressions as follows:
 459 $K_{2,3\text{-Dimethylbutane}}^{N_2} = (1.17 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(227 \pm 20)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$,
 460 $K_{2,3\text{-Dimethylbutane}}^{\text{Air}} = (1.15 \pm 0.09) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(219 \pm 224)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$. The
 461 results show that within the error range, the Arrhenius expressions of OH+2,3-
 462 Dimethylbutane in the nitrogen and air systems are almost consistent. However, as
 463 shown in Table S2, although the rate constants are very consistent, the activation energy
 464 are quite different than those in the wide temperature range.



465
 466 Figure 5. Arrhenius plots for the reaction of n-Octane (a), n-Heptane (b), Isopentane (c)
 467 and 2,3-Dimethylbutane (d) with OH· at 273-323 K along with available literature data.
 468 The error bar was taken as 2σ .

469 **E. OH+ Methylcyclopentane (2-Methylhexane).** Figure 6 (a) and (b) illustrate
 470 the Arrhenius plot for the reaction of methylcyclopentane and 2-methylhexane with OH
 471 radicals in both nitrogen and air systems, spanning a temperature range of 273 to 323



472 K. Literature data from Sprengnether et al. (Sprengnether et al., 2009) and Anderson et
473 al. (Anderson et al., 2004) are available for comparison purposes. Notably, for
474 methylcyclopentane, Anderson et al. (Anderson et al., 2004) reported absolute data that
475 is 26% higher than the relative data obtained in this study at 298 K. However, this
476 difference falls within the margin of error. The absolute data from Sprengnether et al.
477 (Sprengnether et al., 2009) is slightly higher, ranging from 10% to 20%, compared to
478 this study. Additionally, they derived an alternative Arrhenius expression to
479 accommodate the curved behavior of the rate constant between 230 and 370 K, making
480 it difficult to directly compare with our Arrhenius expression. The resulting Arrhenius
481 expressions of methylcyclopentane and 2-methylhexane they derived an alternative
482 Arrhenius expression to accommodate the curved behavior of the rate constant between
483 230 and 370 K, making it difficult to directly compare with our Arrhenius expression.
484 are as follows: $K_{\text{Methylcyclopentane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (1.62 \pm 0.14) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(256 \pm 25)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$,
485 $K_{\text{Methylcyclopentane}}^{\text{Air}} = (1.65 \pm 0.19) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(262 \pm 33)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$.
486 $K_{2\text{-Methylhexane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (1.22 \pm 0.04) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(206 \pm 9)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$,
487 $K_{2\text{-Methylhexane}}^{\text{Air}} = (1.30 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(222 \pm 19)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$. To the best of
488 our knowledge, this is the first investigation of the temperature-dependent kinetics for
489 the reaction of methylcyclopentane and 2-methylhexane with OH radicals utilizing the
490 relative rate technique. The consistency of the Arrhenius expressions in both the
491 nitrogen and air systems implies that the bath gas does not significantly impact the
492 reaction between OH and methylcyclopentane and 2-methylhexane.

493 **F. OH+ 3-Methylheptane.** In Figure 6 (c), the Arrhenius plot presents the reaction
494 between 3-Methylheptane and OH radicals in both the nitrogen and air systems,
495 spanning a temperature range of 273 to 323 K. A linear regression analysis of our data
496 yields the following Arrhenius expressions:
497 $K_{3\text{-Methylheptane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (3.54 \pm 0.45) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(374 \pm 49)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$,
498 $K_{3\text{-Methylheptane}}^{\text{Air}} = (2.72 \pm 0.34) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(456 \pm 28)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$. Within the
499 margin of error, the expression in the nitrogen system is consistent with that in the air



500 system between 273 and 323 K. We believe this study to be the first investigation of the
501 temperature-dependent kinetics for the reaction between 3-Methylheptane and OH
502 radicals. The only previous study on this reaction, reported by Shaw et al. (Shaw et al.,
503 2020) utilizing the relative rate method in nitrogen at 323 K, demonstrates significantly
504 higher data (>65%) compared to our results. Possible explanations for this discrepancy
505 lie in the different reference compounds used and potential sample loss during sampling
506 in the enrichment tube in Shaw et al.

507 **G. OH+ 3-Methylhexane (Figure 6 (d)).** This is the first temperature-dependence
508 relative data. It can be seen from the figure that this data is this data is significantly
509 lower by approximately 80% compared to the absolute data. Under low-temperature
510 (273, 283 K) in a nitrogen gas system, it does not conform to the Arrhenius fit. This
511 enlightens us that for research below 283 K, we still need to carry out experiments in a
512 larger low temperature range for analysis. When excluding the low-temperature data in
513 the nitrogen system, the Arrhenius expression is as follows:

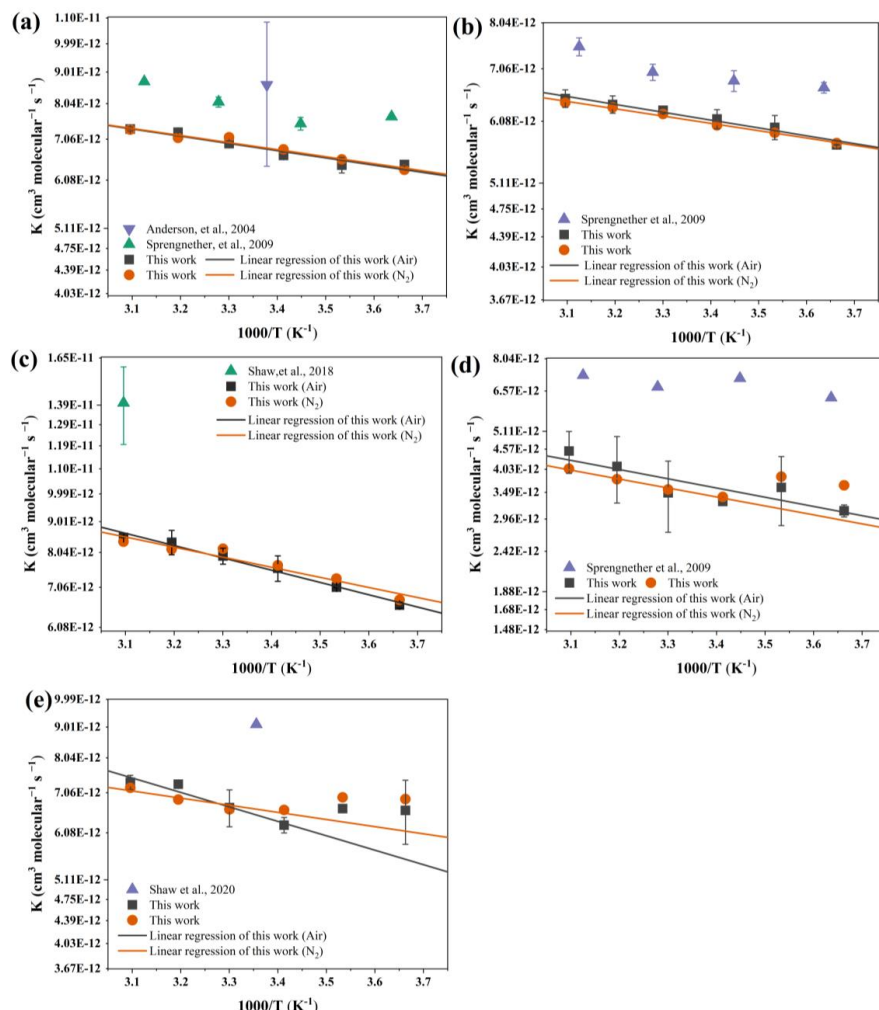
$$514 \quad K_{3\text{-Methylhexane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (2.27 \pm 0.31) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(559 \pm 42)/T] \quad \text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1},$$

$$515 \quad K_{3\text{-Methylhexane}}^{\text{Air}} = (2.53 \pm 1.45) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(575 \pm 161)/T] \quad \text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}.$$

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

$$521 \quad K_{2\text{-Methylheptane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (1.62 \pm 0.37) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(265 \pm 70)/T] \quad \text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1},$$

522 $K_{2\text{-Methylheptane}}^{\text{Air}} = (3.93 \pm 1.33) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(536 \pm 102)/T] \quad \text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$. The pre-
523 exponential factor A and activation energy E_a of the air system are slightly higher than
524 those of the nitrogen system.



525

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

527 (b), 3-Methylhepane (c), 3-Methylhexane (d) and 2-Methylhepane (e) with $\text{OH}\cdot$ at 273-

528 323 K along with available literature data. The error bar was taken as 2σ .

529 4. Conclusions

530 The use of the multivariate relative rate method in this study allowed for the

531 simultaneous determination of reaction rate constants of C3-C11 alkanes and OH

532 radicals in different bath gases, which significantly improved the efficiency of



533 determination. New data and Arrhenius expressions for the reaction of
534 Methylcyclopentane, 2-Methylhepane, 3-Methylheptane, 2-Methylhexane and 3-
535 Methylhexane with OH radicals were obtained for the first time in the temperature
536 range of 273-323 K, expanding the existing database. The measured relative rate
537 constants of air bath gases in the temperature range studied were found to be highly
538 consistent with values obtained in N₂, suggesting that the rate constants obtained in this
539 experiment can reasonably represent the rate constants in the actual atmosphere. The
540 structure-additivity method for rate constant estimation is mostly consistent for the
541 prediction of k_{OH} (298 K) for the studied n-alkanes, but its methodology and parameters
542 do not seem to be able to reasonably estimate the rate constant of 2,3-dimethylbutane.
543 Additionally, there is a big discrepancy in the case of several cycloalkanes
544 (cyclopentane, methylcyclopentane, cyclohexane) and branch alkanes (2,2,4-
545 Trimethylpentane and 2,3,4-Trimethylpentane) with this experiment for estimation
546 parameters' overestimate. There is a reasonable suspicion that this method is still
547 lacking some additional factors.

548 **Data availability**

549 Raw data are available upon request.

550 **Author contributions**

551 Yujing Mu and Chengtang Liu planned the campaign; Yanyan Xin performed the
552 measurements; Yanyan Xin, Chengtang Liu, Yujing Mu and Xiaoxiu Lun analyzed the
553 data; Yanyan Xin and Chengtang Liu wrote the manuscript draft. Shuyang Xie and
554 Junfeng Liu provided technical support.

555 **Competing interests**

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



557 **Acknowledgements**

558 This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Nos.
559 22076202, 42077454 and 41975164).

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