

Supplement of

Summertime ozone sensitivity to temperature in China: observational evidence and mechanistic attribution in urban and rural areas in the Yangtze River Delta region

Chang Su et al.

Model tuning description

All tuning experiments were conducted under a common set of baseline environmental conditions representative of JJA 2022 averages in the Yangtze River Delta (YRD): $T = 30\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, $q = 0.0184\text{ kg kg}^{-1}$, $\text{RH} = 70\%$, surface pressure = 100 kPa, PBL height = 590 m. Initial chemical fields were taken from the prescribed UKCA ST_urban configuration (Table S5), with localised adjustments for species most directly controlling O_3 chemistry (NO_x , CO, key VOCs, radicals; see Table S5). All other species were set to a negligible background value of $10^{-15}\text{ kg kg}^{-1}$. The UKCA chemistry framework used here follows published UKCA/UKESM descriptions {Archibald, 2020 #39}.

Each tuning experiment was integrated for 1 model year with a chemical time step of 10 minutes. Solar radiation was prescribed as a repeating diurnal cycle for 1 July 2022, with separate solar geometries for Shanghai ($31.17\text{ }^{\circ}\text{N}$, $121.42\text{ }^{\circ}\text{E}$) and Lishui ($28.30\text{ }^{\circ}\text{N}$, $119.56\text{ }^{\circ}\text{E}$). Model configurations used the Ori settings, in which temperature is held constant, and C_5H_8 emissions vary only with the diurnal solar cycle.

To prevent an unrealistically high buildup of long-lived species, any species not involved in rapid photochemistry that showed substantial concentration growth over two months was fixed at a constant value. These fixed values (Table S4) were taken from the ST_urban configuration (Table S5).

1. Initial tuning: NO and C_5H_8 emissions

We prescribe NO anthropogenic emissions from the CEDS inventory and C_5H_8 biogenic emissions from MEGAN (Wu et al., 2020). The CEDS flux uses the 2022 JJA monthly-mean fluxes averaged over the target regions (grey cells in Fig. 2a–b in the main content), and the MEGAN flux is described by Fig. S1. These prescribed NO and C_5H_8 fluxes represent the primary O_3 precursor inputs during the initial tuning stage (units $\text{kg m}^{-2}\text{ s}^{-1}$, following the standard UKCA emission specification).

Step 1a (QSS / “variation removal”). Because the box configuration omits transport and initially excluded deposition, constrained precursors exhibited drift. We therefore first sought a **quasi-steady state (QSS)** for NO concentration ($[\text{NO}]$) and C_5H_8 concentration ($[\text{C}_5\text{H}_8]$) by iteratively scaling NO emissions and/or isoprene emissions (coarse factors first, then smaller adjustments). QSS was defined as: for ≥ 30 consecutive days, the day-to-day changes of the daily-mean $[\text{NO}]$ and $[\text{C}_5\text{H}_8]$ are $< 0.1\%$.

Step 1b (constraint matching). After QSS was achieved, emissions were adjusted to match observational constraints: $[\text{NO}_2]_{\text{sim}} \approx [\text{NO}_2]_{\text{obs}}$, $[\text{C}_5\text{H}_8]_{\text{sim}} \approx [\text{C}_5\text{H}_8]_{\text{obs}}$ using NO_2 and C_5H_8 as proxies for the NO_x and isoprene pools (NO was not observed at the study sites). Acceptance required $|C_{\text{sim}} - C_{\text{obs}}| / C_{\text{obs}} \leq 0.30$ for each constrained species (statistics matched to the observational averaging used in Table S1).

2. Adding and tuning additional emissions

After primary tuning, additional emissions were introduced and tuned to re-establish QSS and match constraints under a more realistic precursor mix. Added emissions comprised anthropogenic CO emissions and selected anthropogenic VOC emissions (C_2H_6 , C_3H_8 , HCHO; selected based on CEDS availability and the UKCA ST chemical scheme) and biogenic monoterpene emissions from MEGAN.

Step 2a (QSS after adding emissions). QSS was re-established for the extended system by sequentially scaling VOC emissions to stabilise the emitted VOC pool in order of C_2H_6 , C_3H_8 , Monoterp, HCHO, and C_5H_8 , followed by scaling CO emissions to stabilise $[\text{CO}]$ and scaling NO emissions to stabilise $[\text{NO}]$. The QSS criterion remained: $< 0.1\%$ day-to-day change of daily-mean concentrations for ≥ 30 days.

Step 2b (constraint matching). Emissions were then iteratively tuned to match $[\text{NO}_2]$ $[\text{C}_5\text{H}_8]$ $[\text{CO}]$ and $[\text{HCHO}]$ observations within $\pm 30\%$ (relative difference), with VOC emissions adjusted jointly to satisfy the HCHO constraint.

3. Adding and tuning deposition

To represent unresolved outfluxes (surface deposition and, implicitly, non-represented transport losses), **dry deposition** was enabled for O₃, CO, HCHO, and the NO_y species (NO₂, NO₃, N₂O₅, HO₂NO₂, HNO₃, PAN, P₂AN and M₂AN) using the Wesely resistance framework as implemented in UKCA.

Deposition velocities were initialised from the UKCA/Wesely parameterisation as **24 h summer-mean** values assuming a surface mixture of 50% forest and 50% grass. Deposition was then tuned jointly with emissions to satisfy the same observational constraints while keeping emissions close to their inventory “priors” (CEDS for anthropogenic species; MEGAN for biogenic species).

In practice, [NO₂] was matched by jointly adjusting NO emissions and NO₂ deposition while using NO_y deposition to represent additional NO_x loss pathways and avoid unrealistically large adjustments to NO₂ deposition alone. Analogous joint tuning was applied for isoprene, HCHO, and CO (emissions + deposition) until all constrained species were within ±30% of observations.

Note: at this step, we tolerate NO₂ concentrations lower than those observed at the stations in Lishui while strictly constraining [C₅H₈] to within ±30% observations, on the grounds that the available measurements are from several monitoring sites in populated areas that behave as local urban environments, whereas the box model is intended to represent a wider, forest-surrounded rural background.

4. Determination of spin-up length for sensitivity experiments

A convergence-based spin-up length was determined for subsequent sensitivity experiments. For each candidate day N, daily-mean concentrations on day N were compared with those on day N+30 for [O₃], [O(³P)], [OH], [HO₂], [NO₂], [C₅H₈], [CO], [HCHO]. The **earliest** day NNN for which all tracked species satisfied $|C(N+30)-C(N)|/C(N)<0.03$ was defined as the **convergence day**. The period from day 1 to day N was then used as the target spin-up (run length) for sensitivity experiments.

Limitations of the box-model tuning and justification of the final configuration

Ideally, a completed tuning procedure would retain anthropogenic and biogenic emissions close to their prior prescribed fluxes from CEDS and MEGAN, while dry-deposition velocities would exceed those recorded in the Wesely resistance scheme to account for both deposition and physical transport loss.

In practice, the absence of transport, clouds and wet removal in the UKCA Box configuration imposes constraints and compromises, which differ between the Shanghai and Lishui setups.

Shanghai (urban): tuning compromises and justification

1. BVOC emissions

Isoprene and monoterpene emissions were tuned to values larger than the original MEGAN fluxes. This behaviour reflects a combination of the coarse native spatial resolution (due to the low image resolution of the online journal figure; See Fig. S1) of the MEGAN fields over Shanghai and the compensation for missing anthropogenic VOC classes (e.g., aromatics) in the ST chemical scheme. These BVOC emissions could not be reduced simply by adjusting deposition, because only a small subset of VOCs (primarily HCHO) is deposited in the scheme.

2. Alkane emissions and VOC deposition

Emissions of C₂H₆ and C₃H₈ were tuned below their CEDS values, and no explicit dry deposition was applied to these alkanes (only to HCHO among the VOCs). In principle, one might adjust individual VOC fluxes while preserving the total VOC source, but in practice, increasing alkane emissions and reducing BVOC emissions led to unrealistically low C₅H₈ concentrations, violating the tuning criterion of matching observed mean BVOC levels.

3. NO_x emissions and deposition

NO emissions were tuned to values below the CEDS inventory to avoid excessive NO_x and O₃ build-up in the clear-sky, no-transport box configuration. In principle, part of this discrepancy could be

absorbed by increasing NO_x deposition, but the implemented sink acts primarily on NO rather than NO_2 , and enhancing NO_2 deposition tends to drive NO_2 unrealistically low. We therefore retain reduced NO emissions and only modest NO_x deposition as a pragmatic representation of combined surface and export losses in the urban box.

4. CO emissions and deposition

CO emissions can be tuned back towards the CEDS values, but doing so requires very large CO deposition velocities, which are difficult to justify physically. We therefore accept a residual CO emission adjustment as a limitation of the ST scheme in the box configuration and avoid imposing unrealistically strong CO deposition.

Overall, for Shanghai, we interpret the tuned configuration as follows. For VOCs, we use HCHO as an indicator of the effective VOC reactivity and consider the combined VOC burden to be within an acceptable range (see Table S1a), attributing the elevated BVOC fluxes primarily to the coarse MEGAN representation and missing anthropogenic VOC classes. For NO_x , the reduced NO emissions are viewed as partially compensating for the enhanced photochemistry in the clear-sky, no-transport box, which allows lower NO_x to sustain the observed O_3 levels.

Lishui (Rural) tuning

1. VOC emissions

All VOC emissions remain at their CEDS/MEGAN values except for C_5H_8 , which is tuned below the MEGAN flux. This reduction cannot be offset via deposition because C_5H_8 is not deposited in the scheme. We attribute this adjustment mainly to the coarse-resolution MEGAN fields in a heterogeneous, forest-dominated rural region.

2. NO_x emissions and deposition

NO emissions are again reduced relative to CEDS. Increasing NO_2 deposition to compensate would readily drive NO_2 below the observed levels, so we limit the use of NO_x deposition and accept a moderate downward adjustment of NO emissions.

Overall, for the LS tuning results, we justify it as:

For Lishui, the tuning adjustments are comparatively small. We tolerate O_3 and NO_2 concentrations lower than those observed at the station in the final deposition-tuned configuration, on the grounds that the available measurements are from several monitoring sites in populated areas that behave as local urban environments, whereas the box model is intended to represent a wider, forest-surrounded rural background. In such a setting with strong BVOC emissions and relatively sparse anthropogenic NO_x sources, we expect the true area-mean O_3 and NO_2 levels to be lower than those at the urbanised monitoring sites. During the deposition-tuning phase, we therefore prioritised limiting the temporal variability of O_3 and NO_2 rather than forcing an exact match to the observed means.

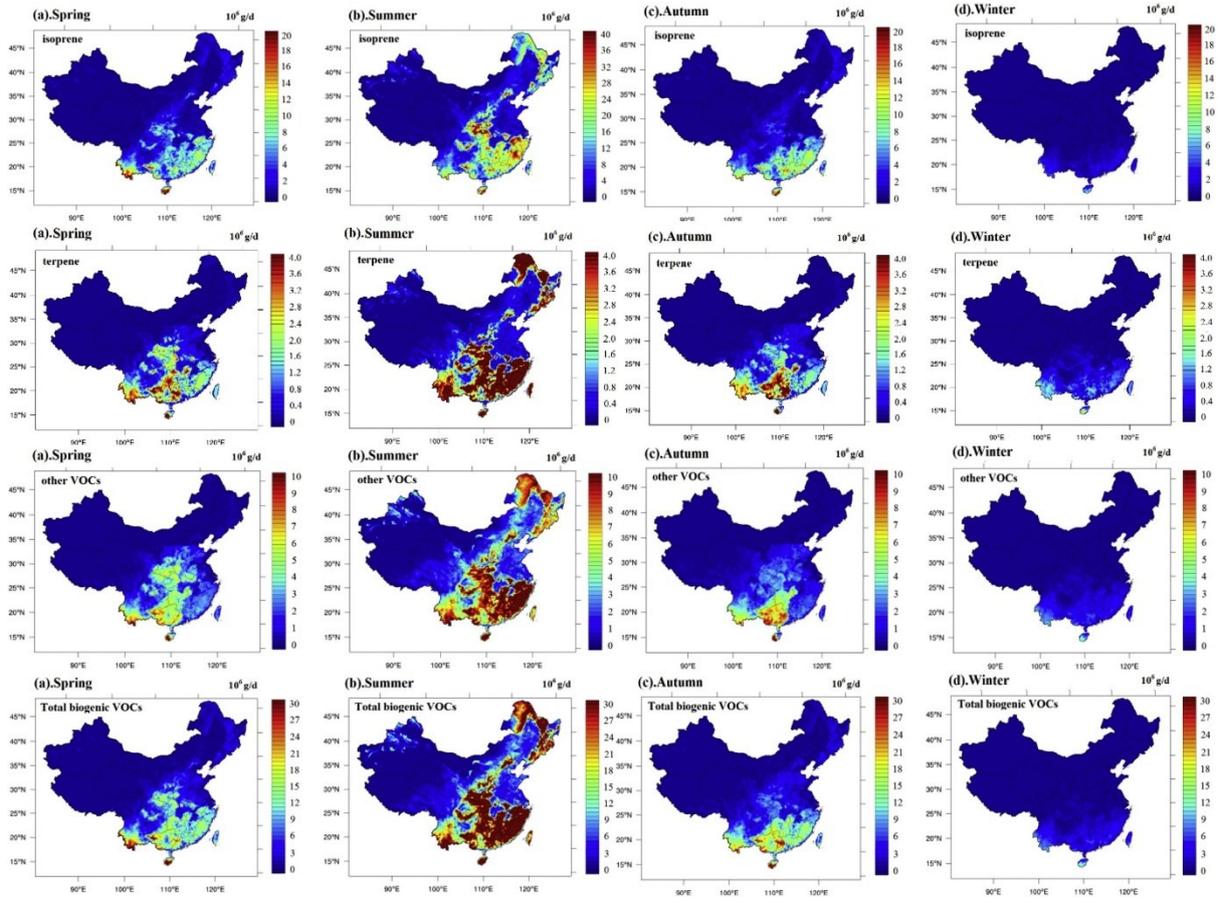


Figure S1. Monthly BVOC (four types) emissions in China in 2017 simulated by MEGAN with a 27-km horizontal grid spacing domain (Wu et al., 2020)

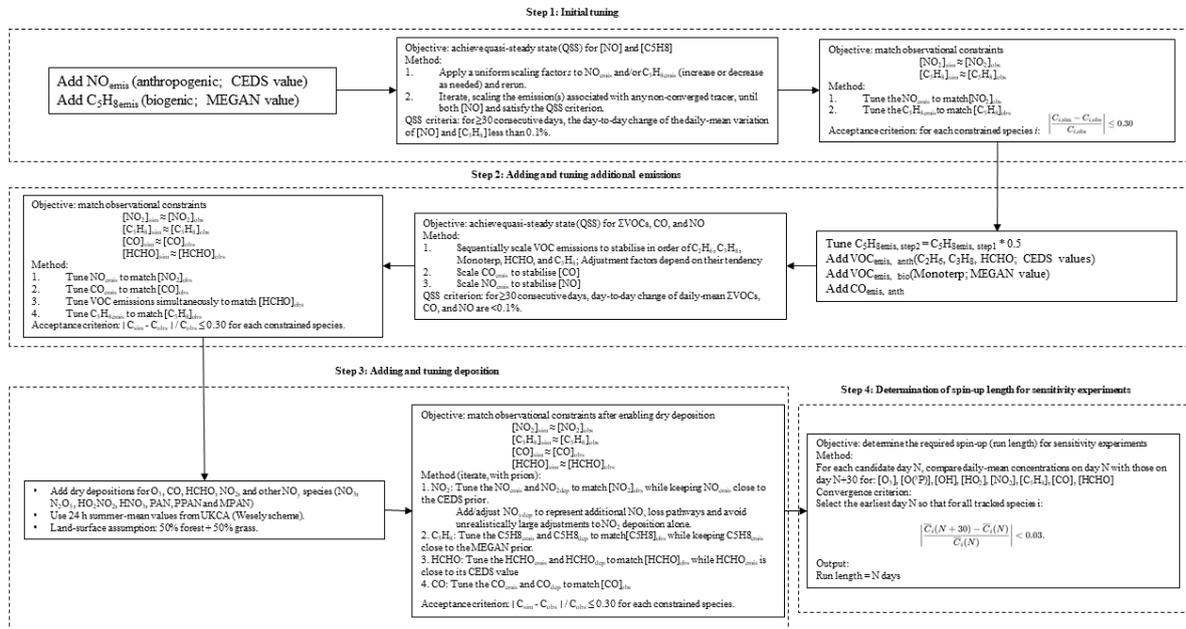


Table S1(a). Model initialisation values (model input) and output results in Shanghai 2022 summer, and comparison with CMAS*, UKESM, and observation data from other studies

						Unit:(kg/kg)
Species	Model input	CMAS*	UKESM	Model output	Observation from other studies	Source, period, and location
O ₃	7.44E-08	7.20E-08	1.16E-07	7.12E-08	7.40E-8(87.5 ug/m ³)	CNEMC**, summer 2022, Shanghai
NO ₂	1.68E-08	3.01E-08	2.50E-08	2.02E-08	1.74E-8(20.6 ug/m ³)	CNEMC, summer 2022, Shanghai
CO	5.37E-07	3.89E-07	N/A	5.42E-07	4.88E-7(581 ug/m ³)	CNEMC, summer 2022, Shanghai
HCHO	3.43E-09	3.92E-09	N/A	3.03E-09	3.43E-9(3.31 ppbv)	Guo et al., 2021, Jun-Aug 2018, Shanghai
C ₅ H ₈	7.00E-10	1.47E-09	2.04E-09	2.86E-10	7.1E-10(0.3ppbv)	Gu et al. (2022), Jul 2018, Shanghai
PAN	1.75E-09	2.59E-09	3.36E-09	7.34E-09	3.76E-9(0.9 ppbv)	Zhang et al. (2021), summer 2017, Shanghai
OH	9.69E-14	9.46E-14	8.04E-13	1.08E-13	2.5E-13(1.02 * 10 ⁷ cm-3)	Nan et al. (2017), Apr-Aug 2013, Shanghai
HO ₂	1.24E-11	N/A	8.35E-11	1.25E-11	3.6E-12(0.8 * 10 ⁸ cm-3)	Zhang et al. (2022), Nov-Dec 2019, Shanghai

Table S1(b). Model initialisation values (model input) and output results in Lishui 2022 summer, and comparison with CMAS*, UKESM, and observation data from other studies

						Unit:(kg/kg)
Species	Model input	CMAS*	UKESM	Model output	Observation from other studies	Source, period, and location
O ₃	4.67E-08	5.80E-08	1.06E-07	3.40E-08	4.67E-8(55.2 ug/m ³)	CNEMC, summer 2022, Lishui
NO ₂	1.43E-08	1.46E-08	3.52E-09	1.14E-09	1.43E-8(16.9 ug/m ³)	CNEMC, summer 2022, Lishui
CO	3.68E-07	2.62E-07	N/A	4.22E-07	3.68E-7(438 ug/m ³)	CNEMC, summer 2022, Lishui
HCHO	3.43E-09	6.35E-09	N/A	5.69E-09	N/A	N/A
C ₅ H ₈	7.00E-10	2.19E-08	5.17E-09	7.41E-09	5.2E-9 (1 to 3 ppbv)	Geng et al. (2011), Sep 2009, Lishui
PAN	1.75E-09	3.85E-09	2.98E-09	3.22E-09	1.57E-9 (0.375 ppbv)	Xu et al. (2024), summer 2020, Nanjing
OH	9.69E-14	4.84E-14	4.43E-14	1.05E-14	2.4E-13 (1.0×10 ⁷ cm-3)	Ma et al. (2022), May-Jun 2018, Taizhou
HO ₂	1.24E-11	N/A	1.83E-11	2.77E-11	5.2E-11 (1.1×10 ⁹ cm-3)	Ma et al. (2022), May-Jun 2018, Taizhou

*CAMS refers to CAMS (Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service) global reanalysis. Specifically, it is the monthly-averaged fields from the EAC4 (European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) Atmospheric Composition Reanalysis 4) dataset.

**CNEMC refers to ground-level hourly O₃ observation data from the China National Environmental Monitoring Center (CNEMC).

Table S2(a). Model emissions tuning in Shanghai, 2022 summer

Emitted Species	CEDS Emissions (kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹)	Adjustment	Model Emissions (kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹)
CO	1.86E-08	0.045	8.37E-10
NO	1.17E-09	0.5	5.85E-10
C ₂ H ₆	2.02E-11	0.5	1.01E-11
C ₃ H ₈	1.83E-11	0.4	7.32E-12
HCHO	7.62E-12	1	7.62E-12
C ₅ H ₈ *	6.35E-11	2	1.27E-10
Monoterp*	6.35E-12	4	2.54E-11

Table S2(b). Model emissions tuning in Lishui, 2022 summer

Emitted Species	CEDS Emissions (kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹)	Adjustment	Model Emissions (kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹)
CO	2.61E-10	0.05	1.31E-11
NO	3.83E-11	0.5	1.91E-11
C ₂ H ₆	1.61E-12	1	1.61E-12
C ₃ H ₈	8.10E-13	1	8.10E-13
HCHO	3.98E-13	1	3.98E-13
C ₅ H ₈ *	4.45E-10	0.5	2.22E-10
Monoterp*	6.35E-11	1	6.35E-11

*C₅H₈ and Monoterpenes emissions are from MEGAN (Wu et al., 2020)

Table S3(a). Model depositions tuning in Shanghai, 2022 summer

Deposited Species	Original deposition velocity (cm s ⁻¹)	Adjustment	Model deposition velocity (cm s ⁻¹)
O ₃	6.20E-03	1	6.20E-03
CO	3.00E-04	4	1.20E-03
HCHO	7.20E-03	1	7.20E-03
NO ₂	3.95E-03	5	1.98E-02
NO ₃	3.95E-03	1	3.95E-03
N ₂ O ₅	2.75E-02	1	2.75E-02
HO ₂ NO ₂	1.80E-02	1	1.80E-02
HONO ₂	1.80E-02	1	1.80E-02
PAN	3.15E-03	1	3.15E-03
PPAN	3.15E-03	1	3.15E-03
MPAN	3.15E-03	1	3.15E-03

Table S3(b). Model depositions tuning in Lishui, 2022 summer

Deposited Species	Original deposition velocity (cm s-1)	Adjustment	Model deposition velocity (cm s-1)
O3	6.20E-03	1	6.20E-03
CO	3.00E-04	2	6.00E-04
HCHO	7.20E-03	1	7.20E-03
NO2	3.95E-03	1	3.95E-03
NO3	3.95E-03	1	3.95E-03
N2O5	2.75E-02	1	2.75E-02
HO2NO2	1.80E-02	1	1.80E-02
HONO2	1.80E-02	1	1.80E-02
PAN	3.15E-03	1	3.15E-03
PPAN	3.15E-03	1	3.15E-03
MPAN	3.15E-03	1	3.15E-03

Table S4. Long-lived fix species

Fixed Species	Fixed Concentration (kg kg-1)
CH4	9.72E-07
MeBr	7.04E-11
H2	1.00E-08
CS2	1.00E-15
COS	1.00E-15

Table S5. UKCA ST_urban tracer initial configuration and conditions in Shanghai and Lishui

Species	Shanghai	Lishui
O(3P)	3.00E-16	3.00E-16
O3*	7.44E-08	4.67E-08
N	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
NO	6.90E-09	6.90E-09
NO3	1.87E-12	1.87E-12
NO2*	1.68E-08	1.43E-08
N2O5	1.21E-11	1.21E-11
HO2NO2	1.61E-11	1.61E-11
HONO2	9.16E-09	9.16E-09
H2O2	1.96E-09	1.96E-09
CH4	9.72E-07	9.72E-07
CO*	5.37E-07	3.68E-07
HCHO*	3.43E-09	3.43E-09
MeOO	3.32E-12	3.32E-12
MeOOH	3.29E-10	3.29E-10
H	1.29E-26	1.29E-26
H2O	1.84E-02	1.84E-02
OH	9.69E-14	9.69E-14
HO2	1.24E-11	1.24E-11
Cl	4.43E-19	4.43E-19
Cl2O2	7.40E-22	7.40E-22

ClO	9.56E-17	9.56E-17
OCIO	1.45E-19	1.45E-19
Br	1.20E-15	1.20E-15
BrO	7.36E-11	7.36E-11
BrCl	2.91E-19	2.91E-19
BrONO2	2.50E-14	2.50E-14
N2O	4.86E-07	4.86E-07
HCl	3.98E-09	3.98E-09
HOCl	4.74E-14	4.74E-14
HBr	1.95E-12	1.95E-12
HOBr	1.27E-13	1.27E-13
ClONO2	1.34E-15	1.34E-15
CFC13	1.82E-09	1.82E-09
CF2Cl2	4.19E-09	4.19E-09
MeBr	7.04E-11	7.04E-11
HONO	2.96E-11	2.96E-11
C2H6	2.17E-08	2.17E-08
EtOO	2.93E-13	2.93E-13
EtOOH	2.40E-11	2.40E-11
MeCHO	2.75E-10	2.75E-10
MeCO3	1.11E-12	1.11E-12
PAN	1.75E-09	1.75E-09
C3H8	6.03E-09	6.03E-09
n-PrOO	5.02E-14	5.02E-14
i-PrOO	1.32E-13	1.32E-13
n-PrOOH	5.02E-12	5.02E-12
i-PrOOH	9.78E-12	9.78E-12
EtCHO	2.51E-11	2.51E-11
EtCO3	2.12E-14	2.12E-14
Me2CO	8.82E-09	8.82E-09
MeCOCH2OO	8.60E-14	8.60E-14
MeCOCH2OOH	1.09E-11	1.09E-11
PPAN	2.64E-11	2.64E-11
MeONO2	7.89E-11	7.89E-11
C5H8*	7.00E-10	7.00E-10
ISO2	6.32E-12	6.32E-12
ISOOH	1.39E-10	1.39E-10
ISON	1.84E-09	1.84E-09
MACR	3.04E-09	3.04E-09
MACRO2	1.70E-12	1.70E-12
MACROOH	8.24E-11	8.24E-11
MPAN	1.63E-09	1.63E-09
HACET	2.59E-09	2.59E-09
MGLY	2.61E-10	2.61E-10
NALD	2.28E-10	2.28E-10
HCOOH	2.41E-10	2.41E-10
MeCO3H	1.91E-10	1.91E-10
MeCO2H	1.37E-10	1.37E-10

H2	1.00E-08	1.00E-08
MeOH	1.94E-08	1.94E-08
DMS	4.80E-11	4.80E-11
SO2	3.91E-09	3.91E-09
Monoterp*	5.20E-10	5.20E-10

*Species' initial concentrations changed according to observations

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