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# Formation of Reactive Oxygen Species by Atmospheric Particulate Matter

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# Air Pollution & Health Effects

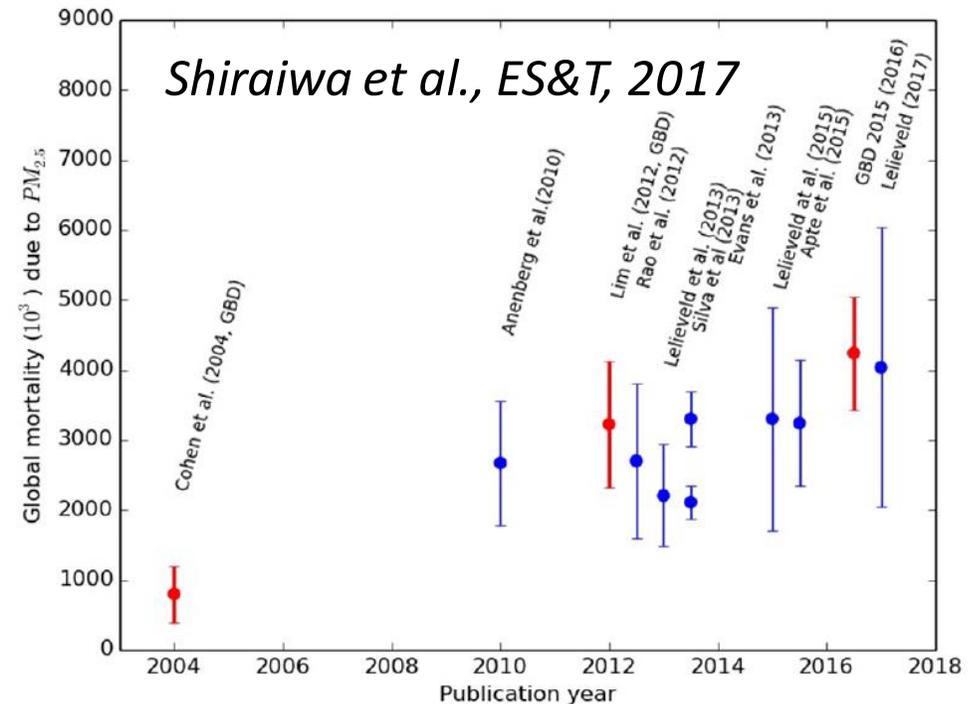


Air pollution leads to **4.2 million premature death per year** worldwide (Global Burden of Diseases)

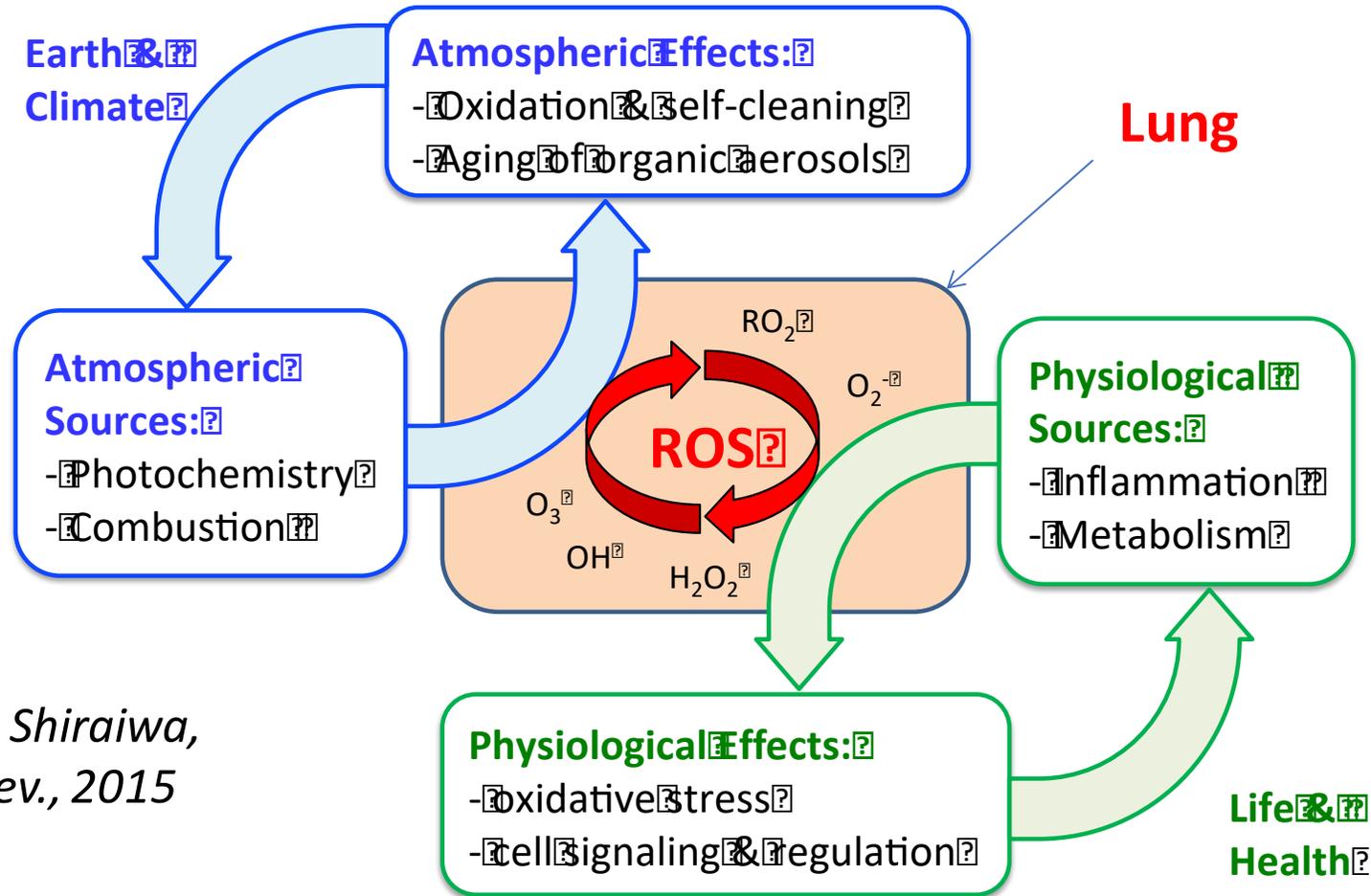
**“Are we creating a hazardous atmosphere?”**

**Ozone** background level increased from  $\sim 10 - 20$  ppb to  $30 - 40$  ppb

**Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>):**  
 $\sim 1 - 10 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  (pristine) vs.  
 $\sim 100 - 2000 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  (polluted)



**Motivation:** Air Pollution is a threat to human health, but the underlying chemistry at the atmosphere-biosphere interface are poorly understood. **Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS)** play a central role.

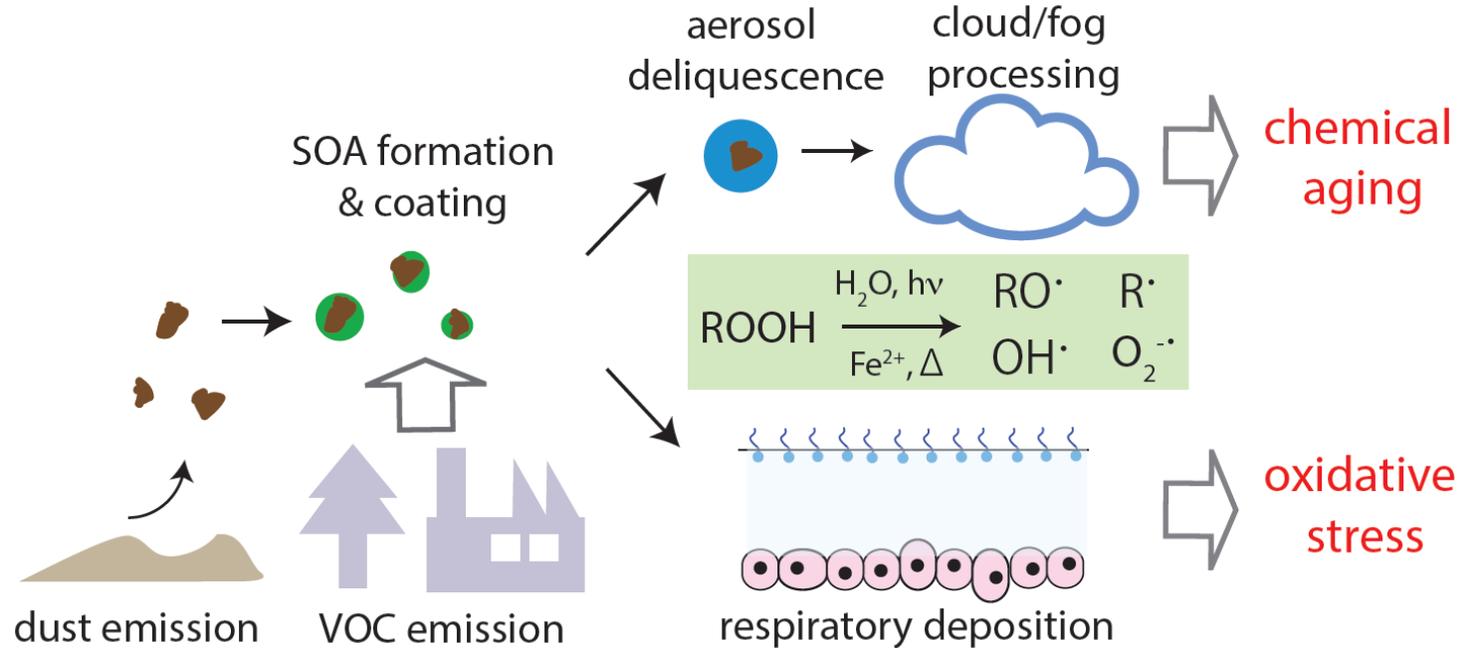


*Pöschl & Shiraiwa,  
Chem. Rev., 2015*

**Goal:** Quantitative understanding of ROS multiphase chemistry for better assessment & handling of air quality and public health

# ROS Formation by Atmospheric Particulate Matter

## SOA decomposition

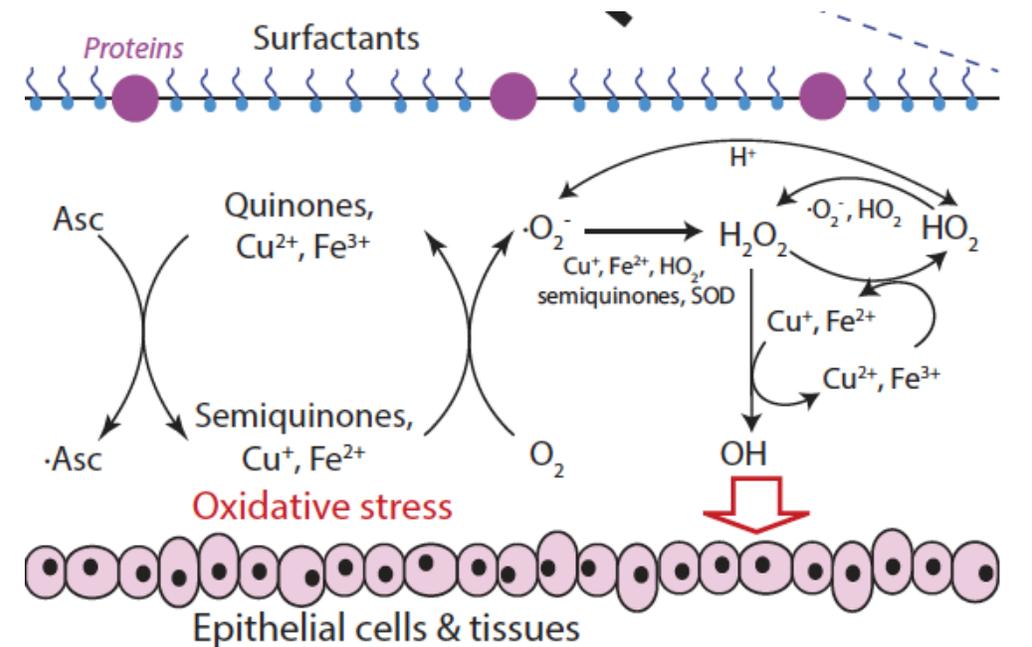


Tong et al., 2016; 2017

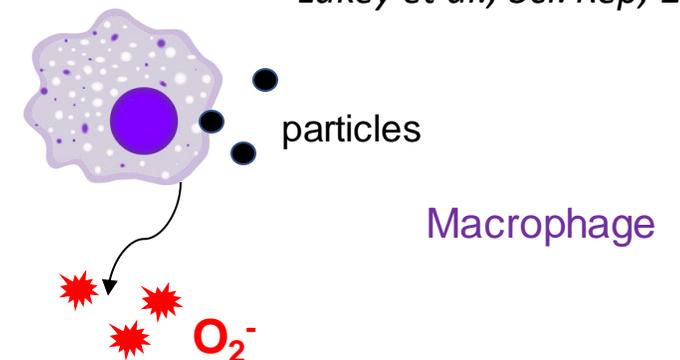
Atmospheric PM contain **reactive or redox-active compounds**

- organic hydroperoxides (HOMs, ELVOCs), alcohols, ketones
- quinones, environmentally persistent free radicals (EPFRs)
- transition metals (Fe, Cu)
- humic like substances

## Redox reactions in lung fluid



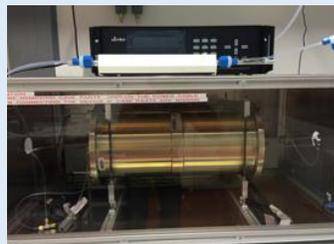
Lahey et al., Sci. Rep, 2016



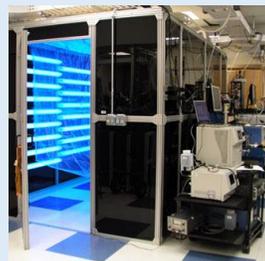
# OH formation by SOA decomposition

Tong et al., Atmos. Chem. Phys., 2016

## SOA Generation, Sampling



PAM chamber



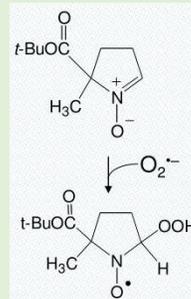
reaction chamber

## ROS Measurements



Electron  
Paramagnetic  
Resonance

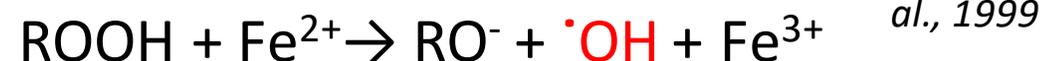
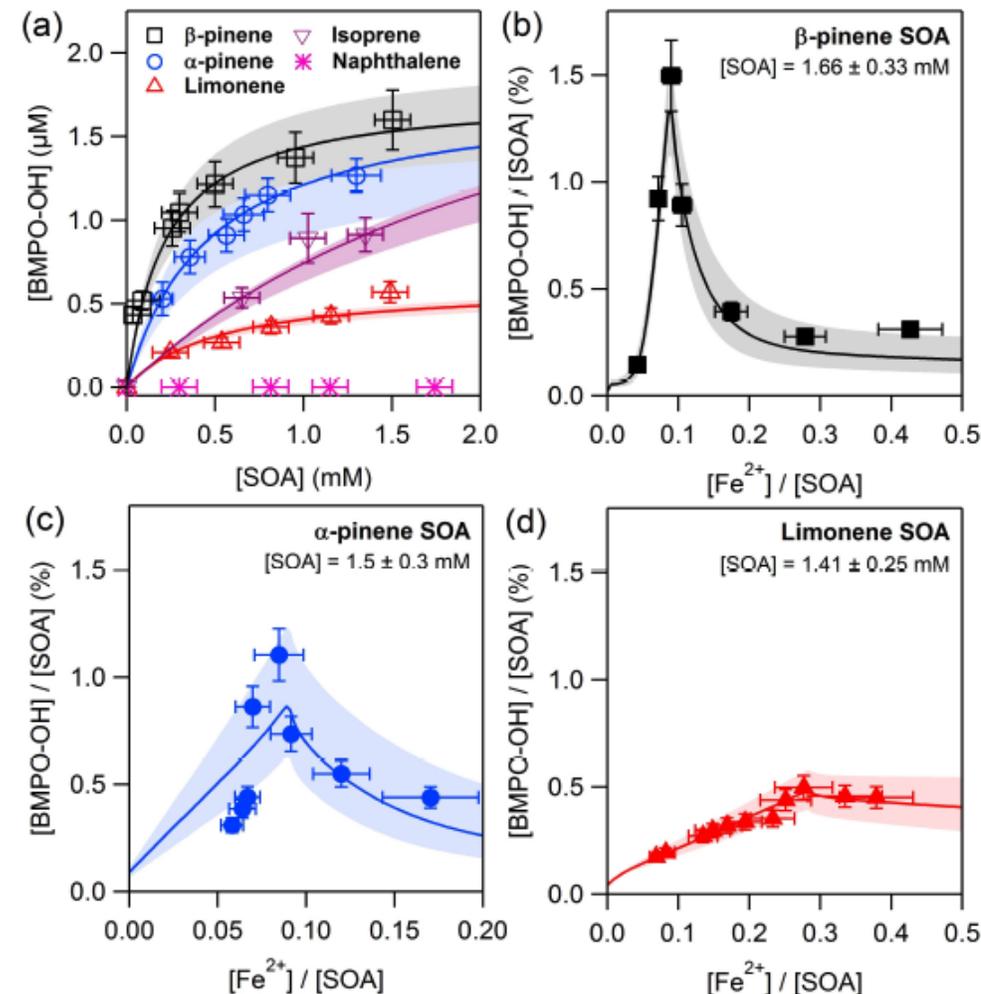
Spin trapping to detect short-lived radicals



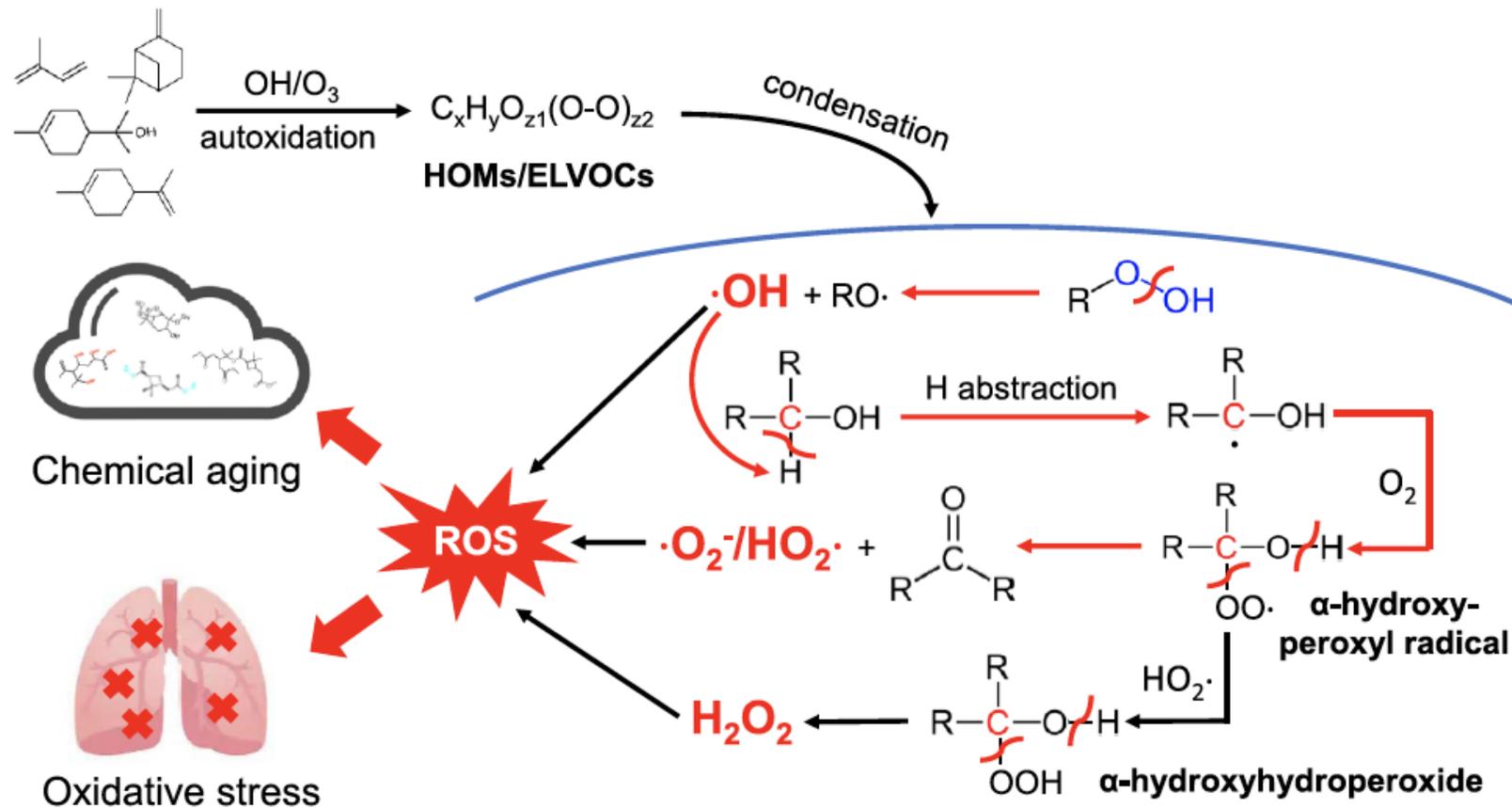
## Kinetic Modeling

- ROOH/ROH chemistry
- Fenton-like chemistry
- HOx coupling reactions
- BMPO trapping/decay

Monte Carlo Genetic Algorithm for fitting/error eval. (Berkemeier et al.)

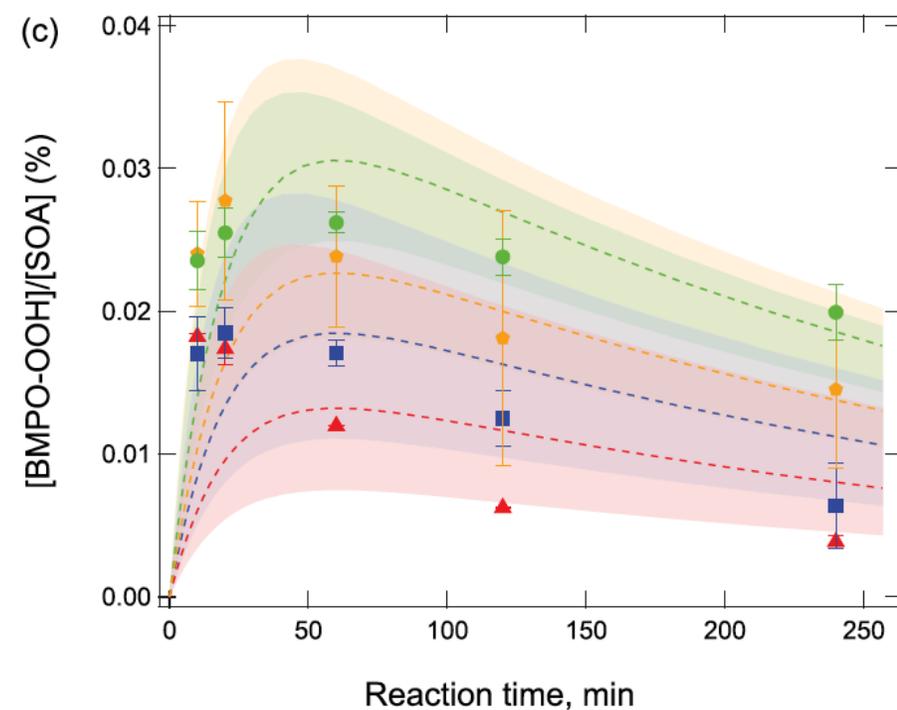
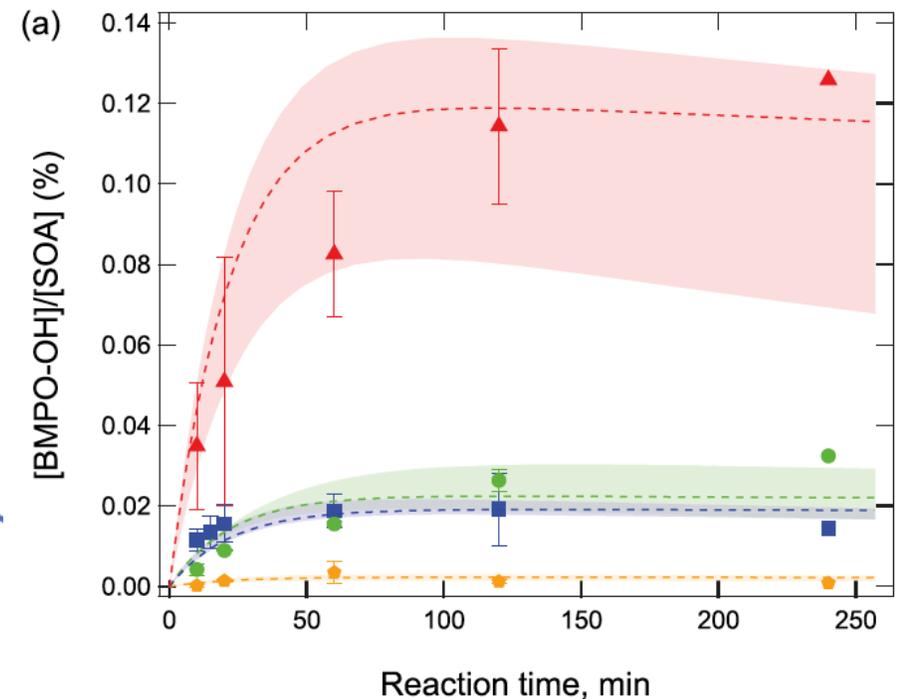


# OH/O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> formation by biogenic SOA

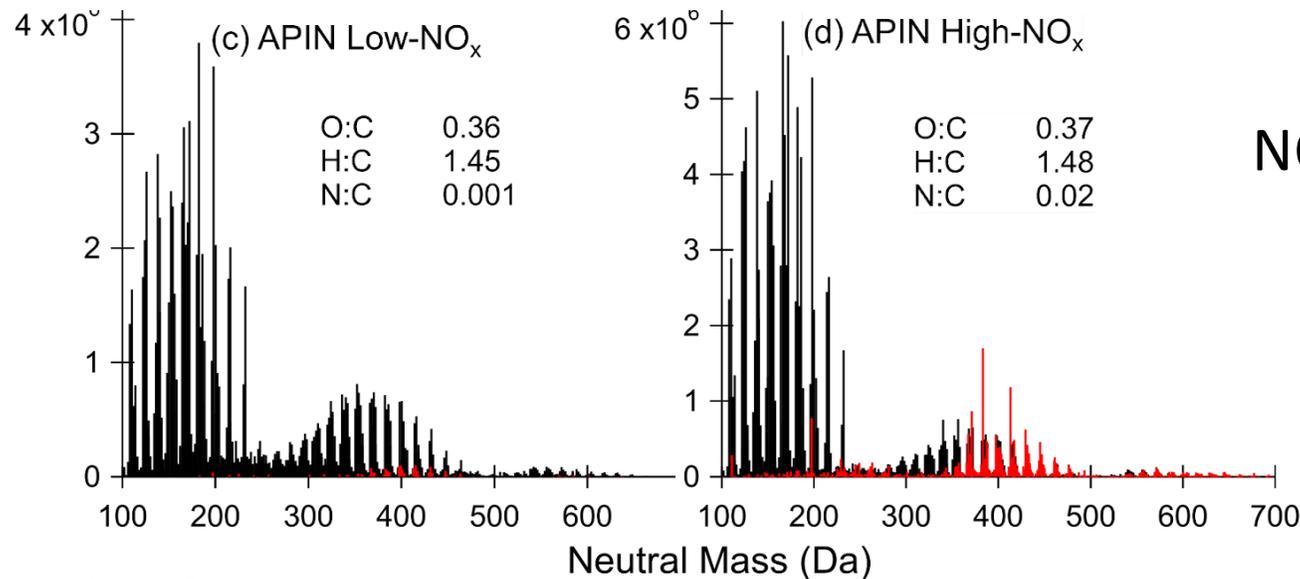
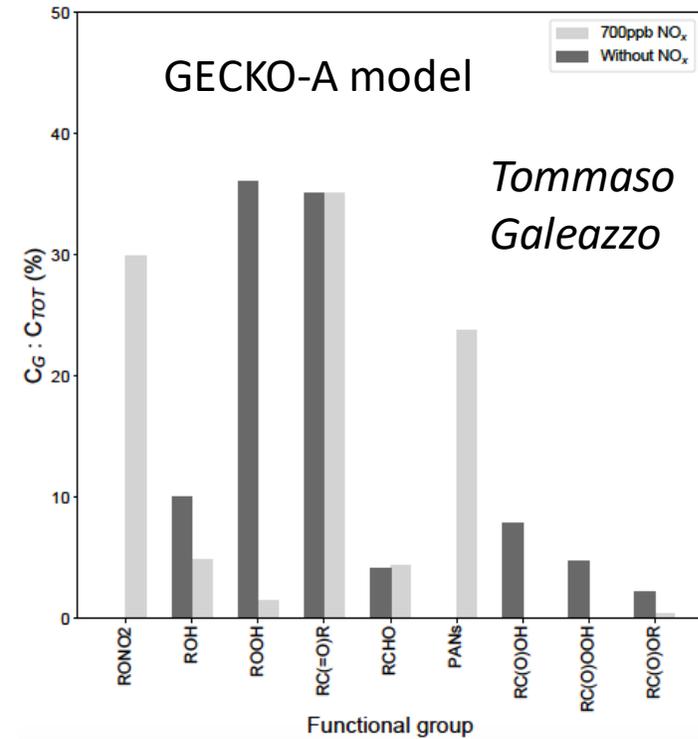
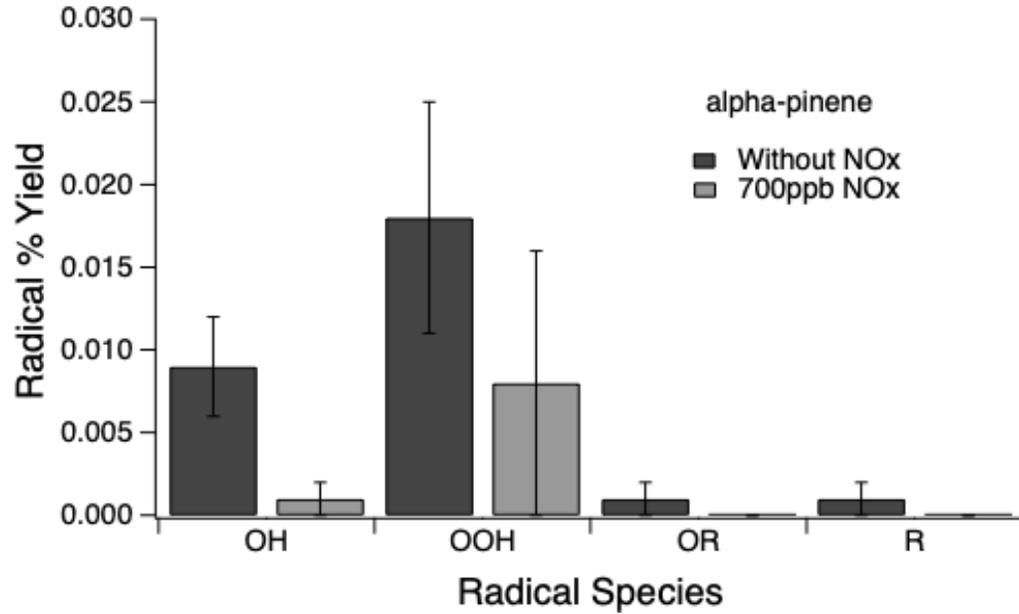


Kinetic modeling considering ROOH decomposition followed by alcohol oxidation explains the observed OH/O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> formation well

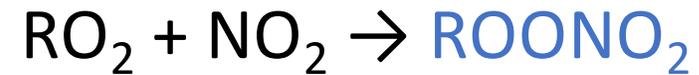
Wei et al., ES&T, 2021



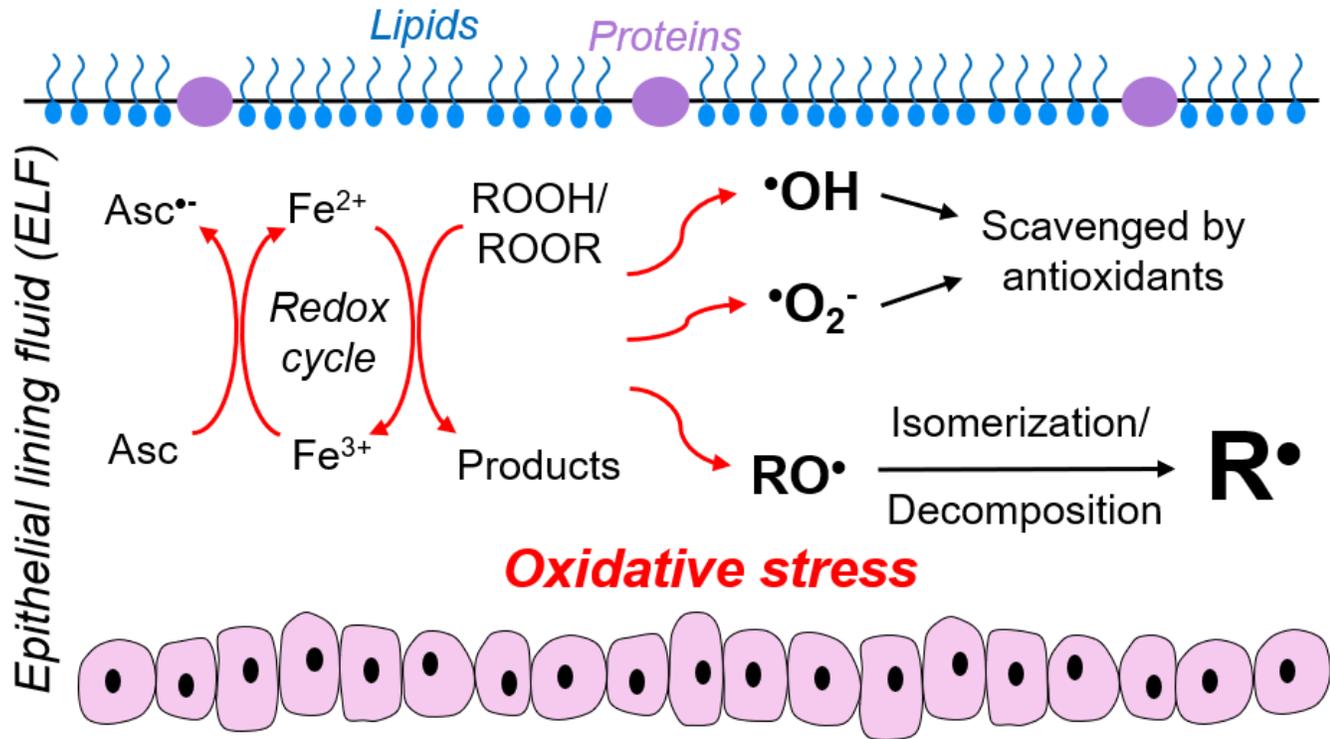
# NO<sub>x</sub> effects on ROS formation by SOA



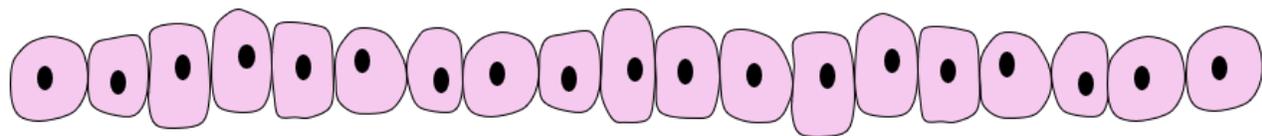
NO<sub>x</sub> changes the fate of peroxy radicals RO<sub>2</sub>



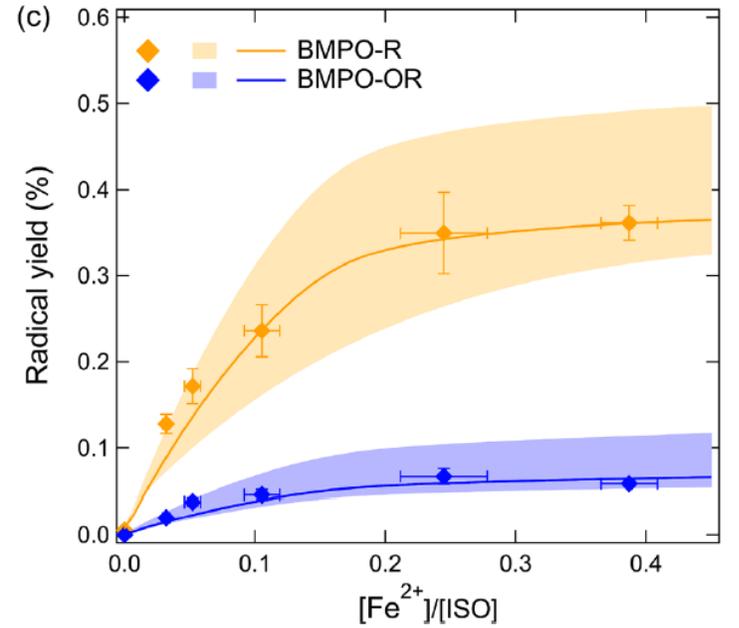
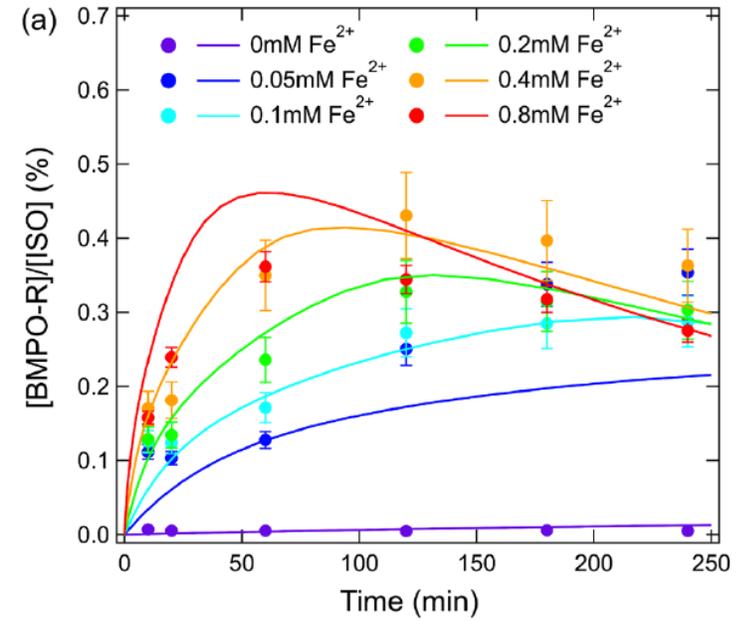
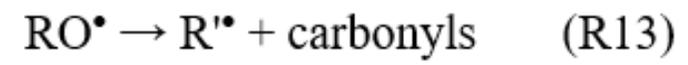
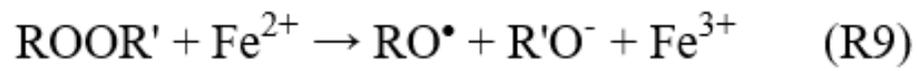
# Dominant Organic Radical Formation in Epithelial Lining Fluid



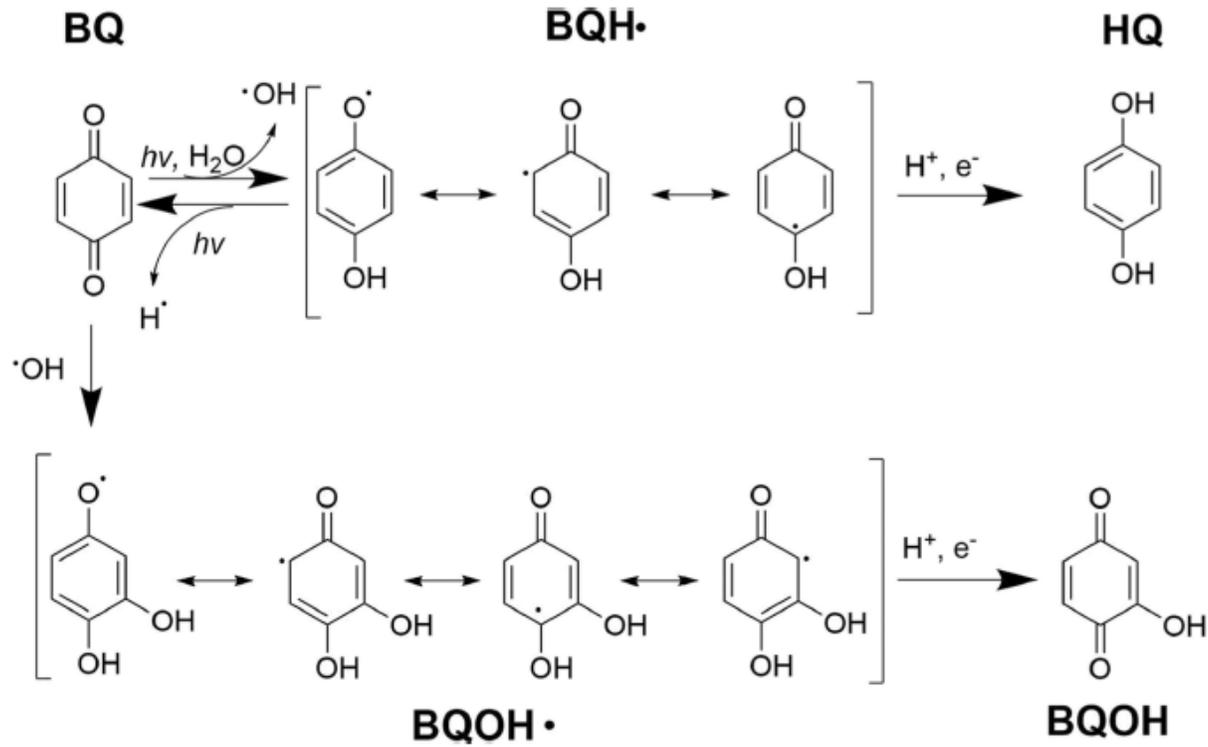
**Oxidative stress**



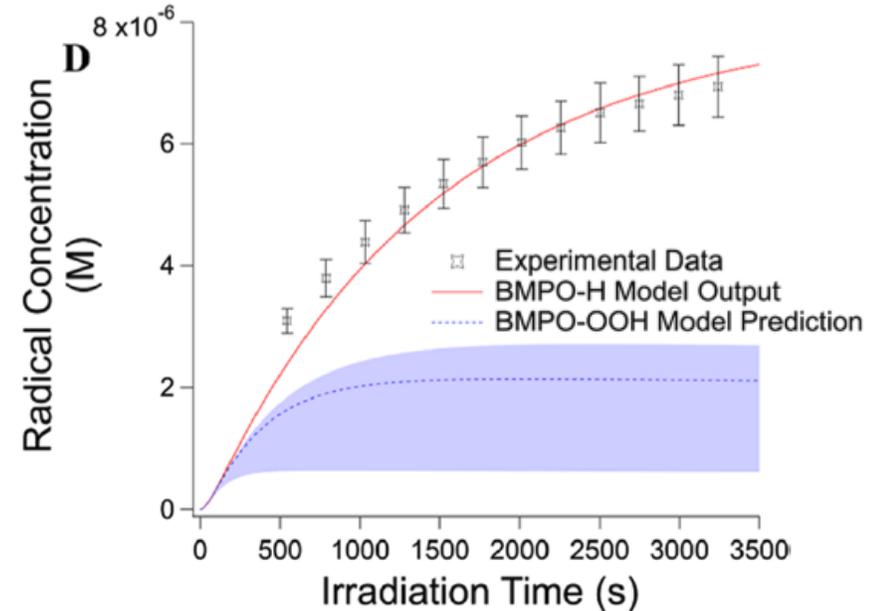
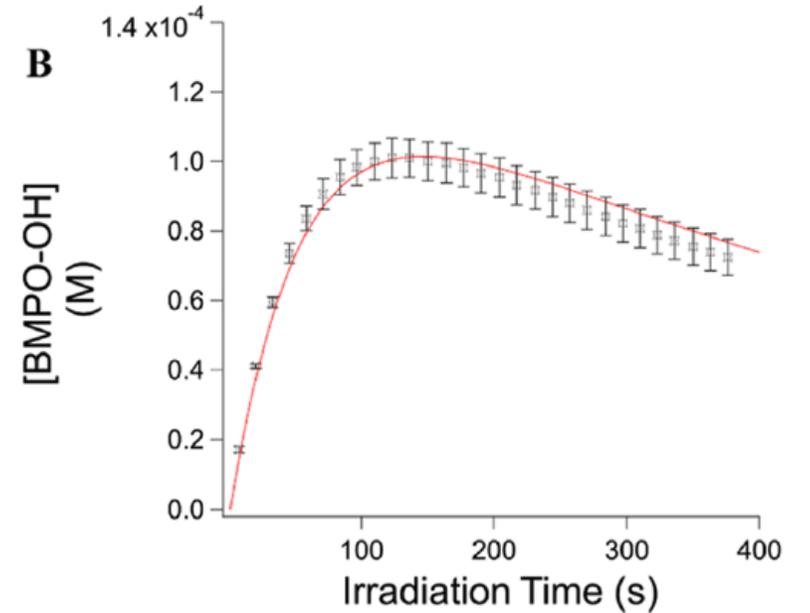
*Epithelial cells and tissues*



# Photoenhanced Radical Formation in Levoglucosan/Benzoquinone

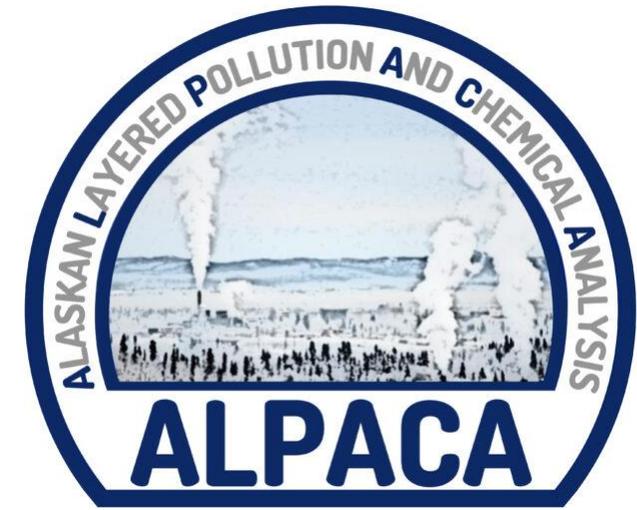
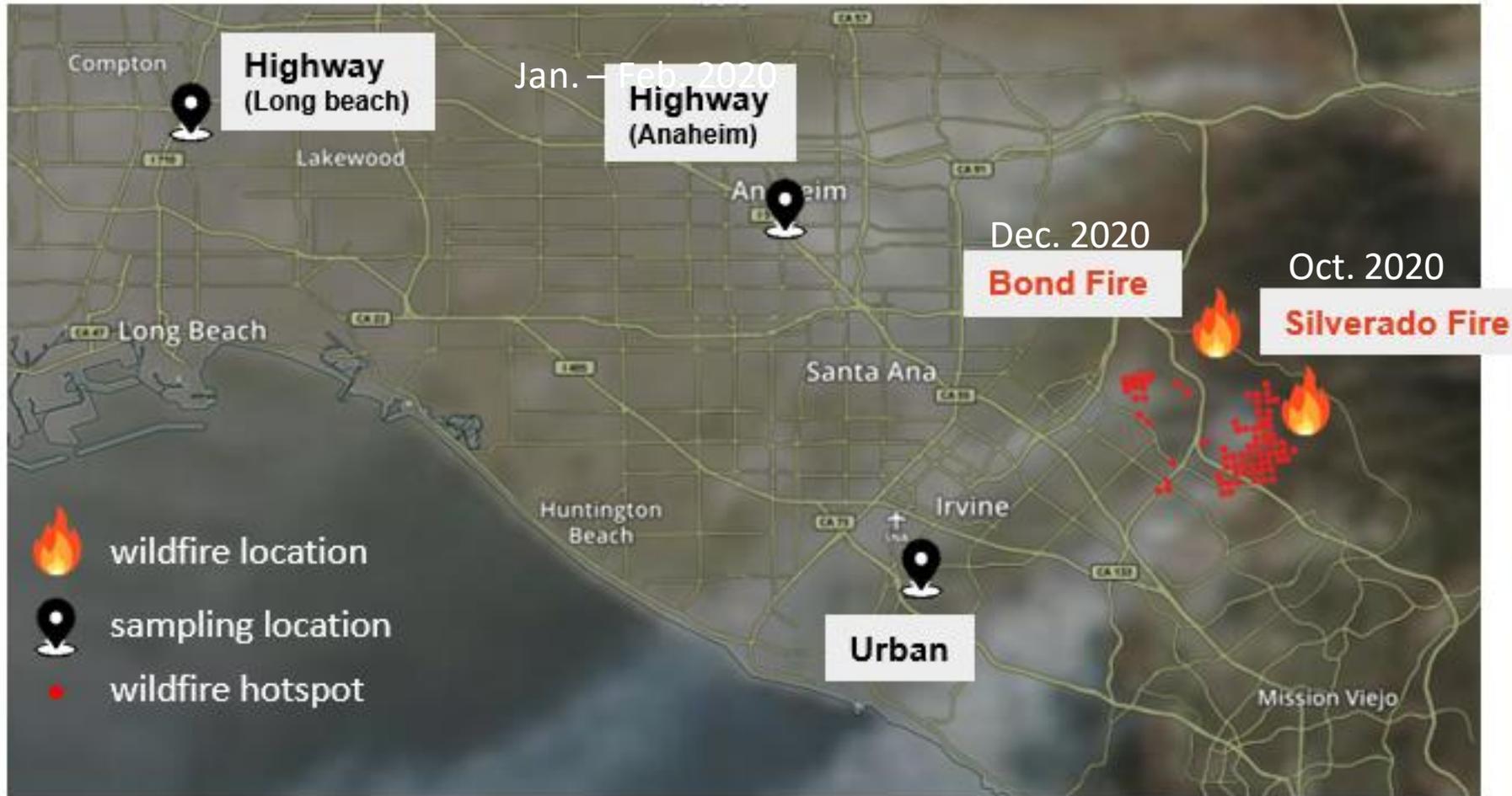


- Dominant formation of  $\cdot\text{OH}$ , by triplet-state benzoquinone with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- $\text{H}\cdot$  were observed, generated by photochemical decomposition of semiquinone radicals.
- Substantial formation of C- and O-centered organic radicals



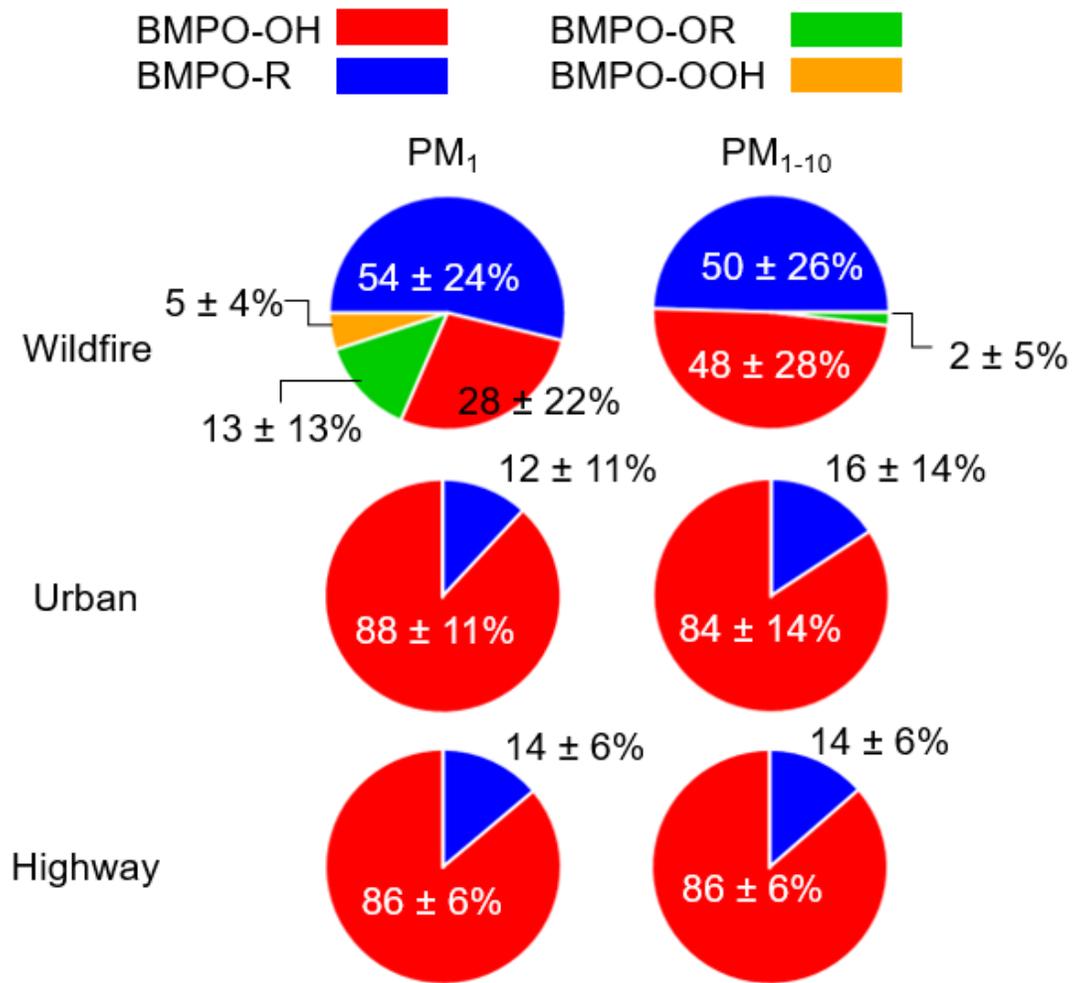
# Ambient PM Sampling with high-volume sampler & MOUDI

(A) Ambient collection of wildfires, highway, and urban PM



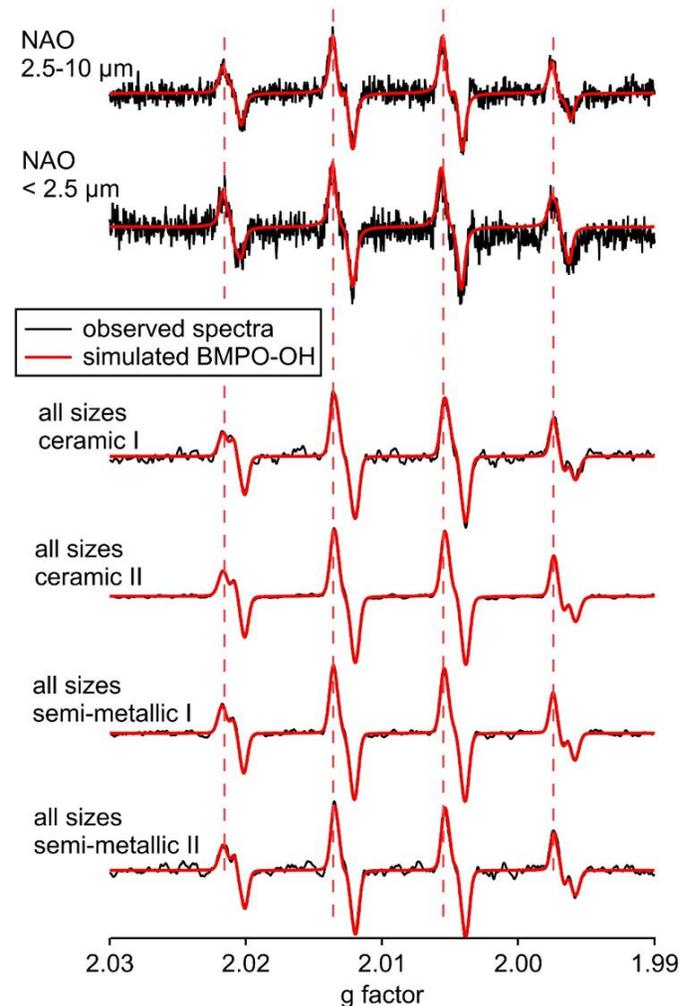
Winter 2022 in Fairbanks, Alaska  
Cold/dark environments

EPR Measurements of **environmentally persistent free radicals (EPFRs)** & **ROS** in water

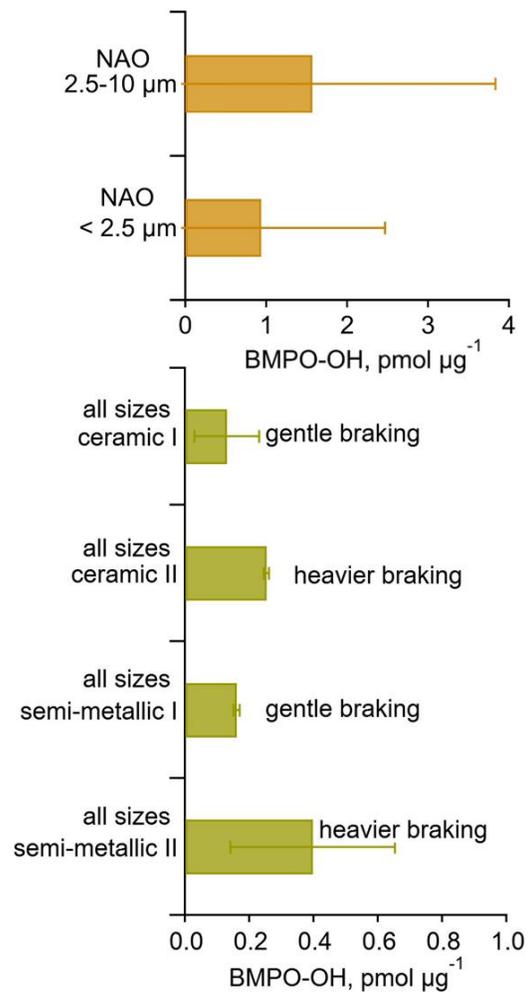


Hwang et al., ACS ESC, 2021; Fang et al., ESA, 2023

(A) EPR spectra of aqueous extracts



(B) BMPO-OH from BWPs

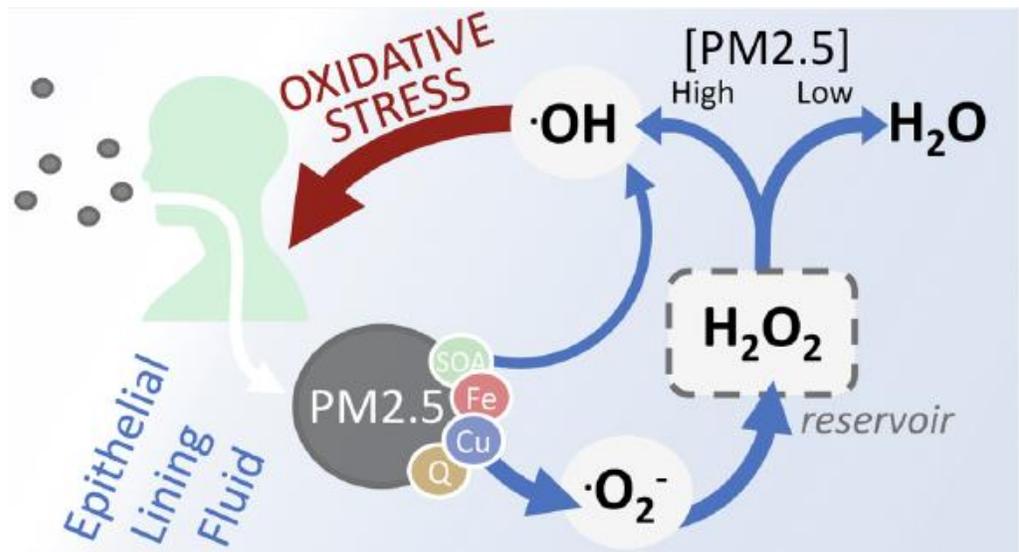


Fang et al., submitted

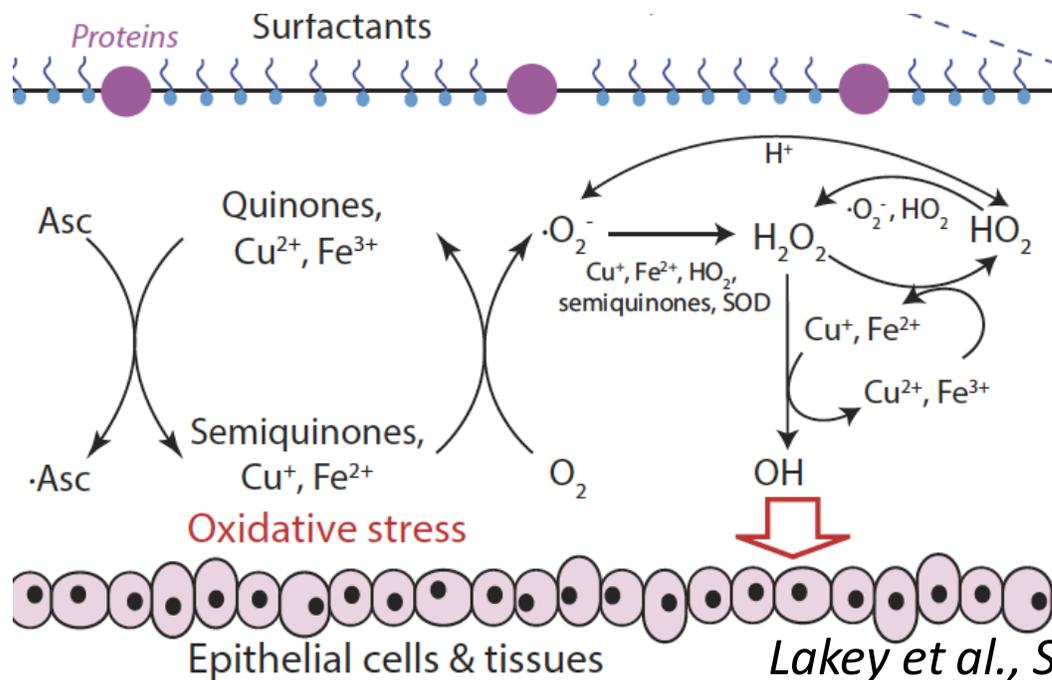
- Highway/urban PM form mainly OH·: sources from non-tailpipe emissions (**brake wear**)
- Wildfire PM generates various radicals including OH, ·O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, organic radicals.

# Modeling Chemical Exposure-Response Relationship

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. Amazon    | 7. Milan      |
| 2. Edinburgh | 8. Guangzhou  |
| 3. Toronto   | 9. Pune       |
| 4. Tokyo     | 10. Beijing   |
| 5. Budapest  | 11. New Delhi |
| 6. Hong Kong | 12. Indonesia |

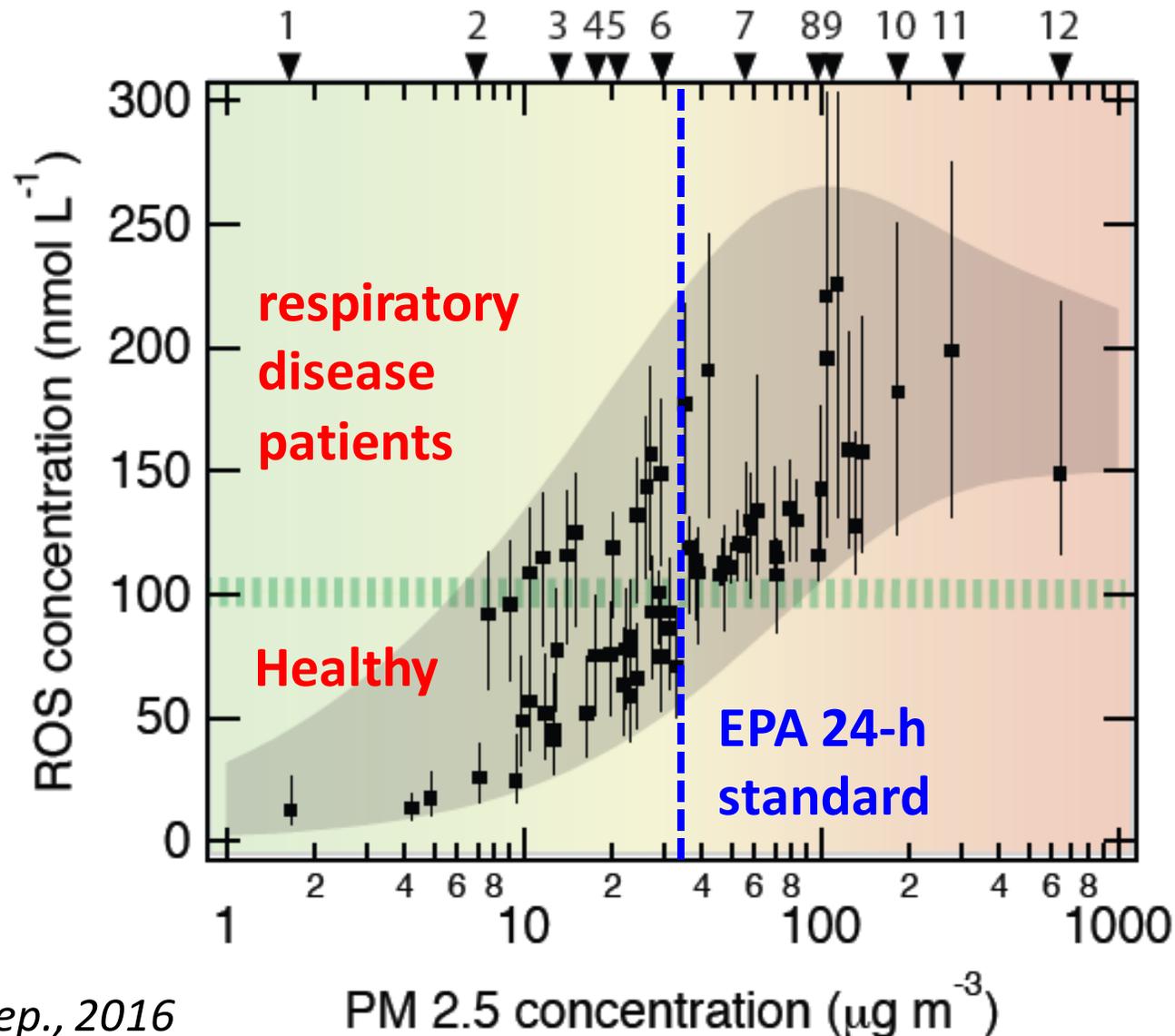


*Lelieveld et al., ES&T, 2021*



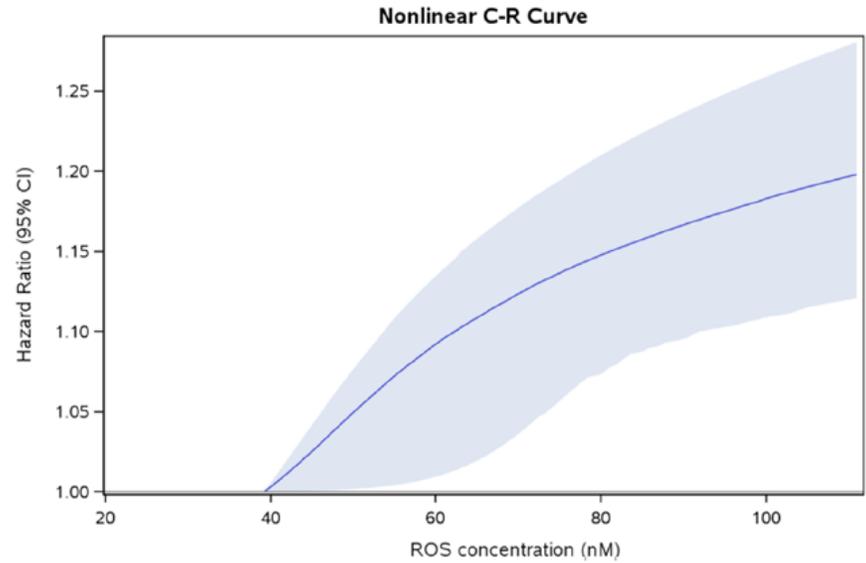
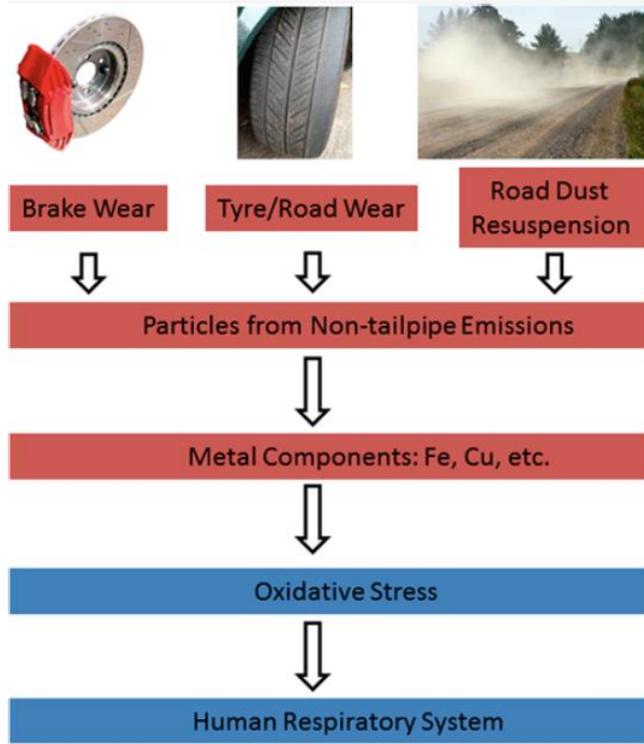
*Lakey et al., Sci. Rep., 2016*

## KM-SUB-ELF Model

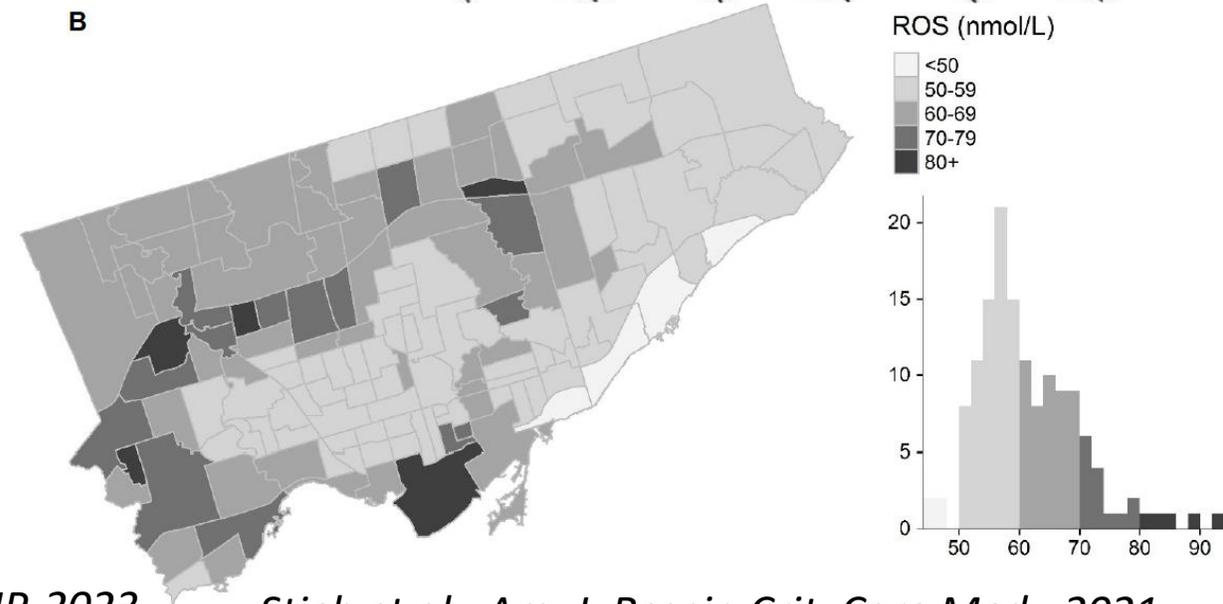
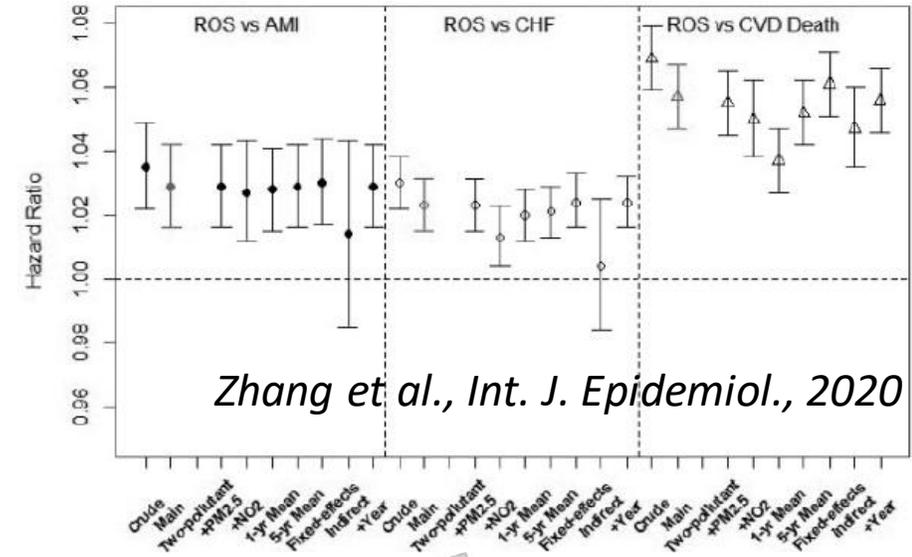


# Applications of KM-SUB-ELF to Epidemiological Studies

In collaboration with **Scott Weichenthal (McGill)**, **Michael Jerrett (UCLA)**



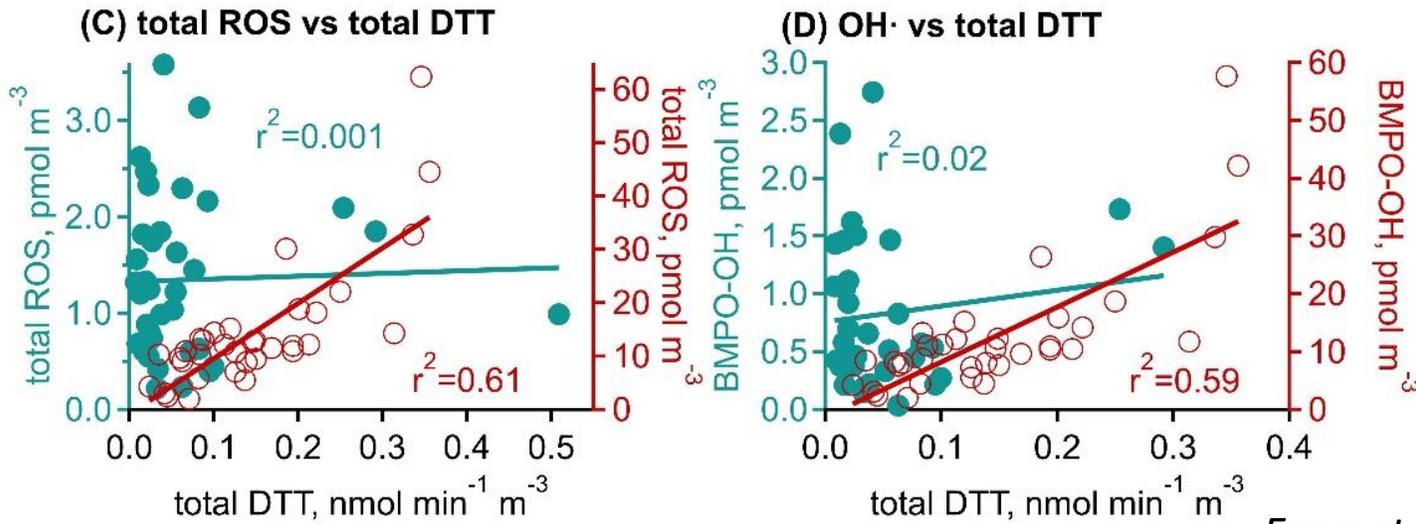
Zhang et al., *EST*, 2021



The observed associations were stronger for the estimated ROS than for iron and copper individually.

Oxidative stress in lung have strong associations with respiratory & cardiovascular diseases, adverse birth outcomes, allergenic diseases in children in L.A.

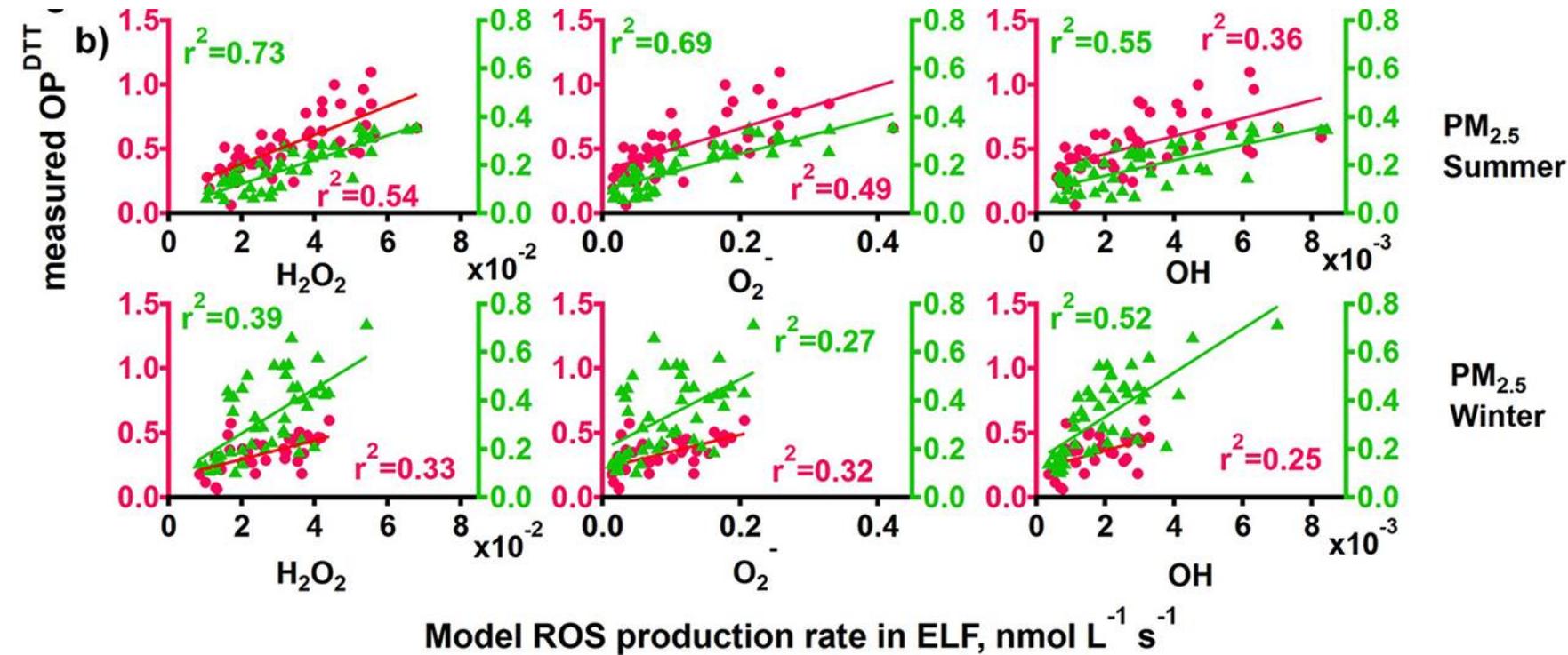
# Oxidative Potential vs. ROS



Fang et al., ESA, 2023

- OP-DDT of highway/urban samples are correlated with ROS/OH
- no correlation is observed in wildfire PM

Road side oxidative potential (AA/DDT) measurements in Atlanta



PM oxidative potential may be a reasonable indicator of ROS at road site, but less so when affected by biomass burning.

Fang et al., ES&T, 2019

# EPFRs vs. Oxidative Potential of OH formation in Lung Fluid

EPFRs are emitted by traffic and residential wood burning in Fairbanks

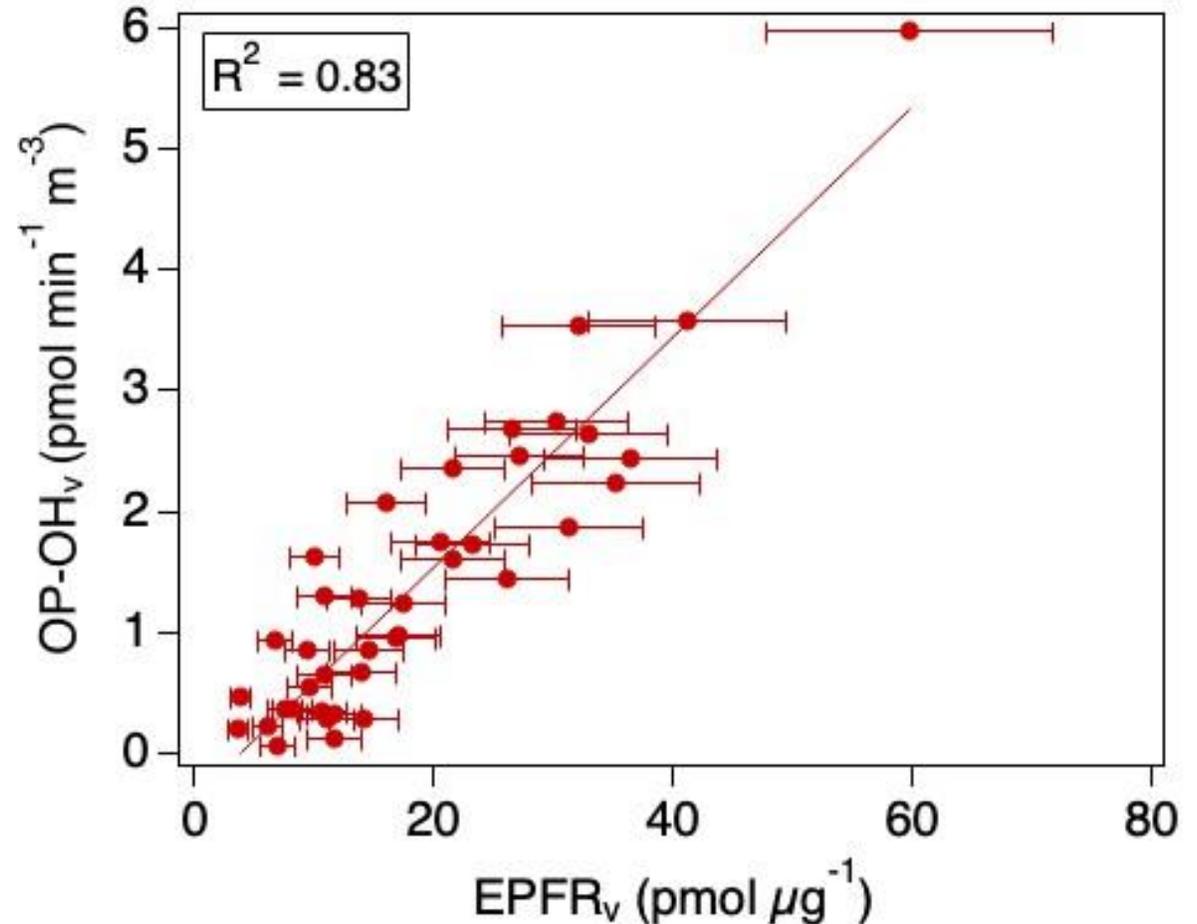
EPFR concentrations are equivalent to smoking ~0.4 - 1 cigarette daily

EPFR is known to be redox active (Dellinger et al.)

Weak correlation of EPFR vs. OP-DTT

Excellent correlation of EPFR vs. OP-OH

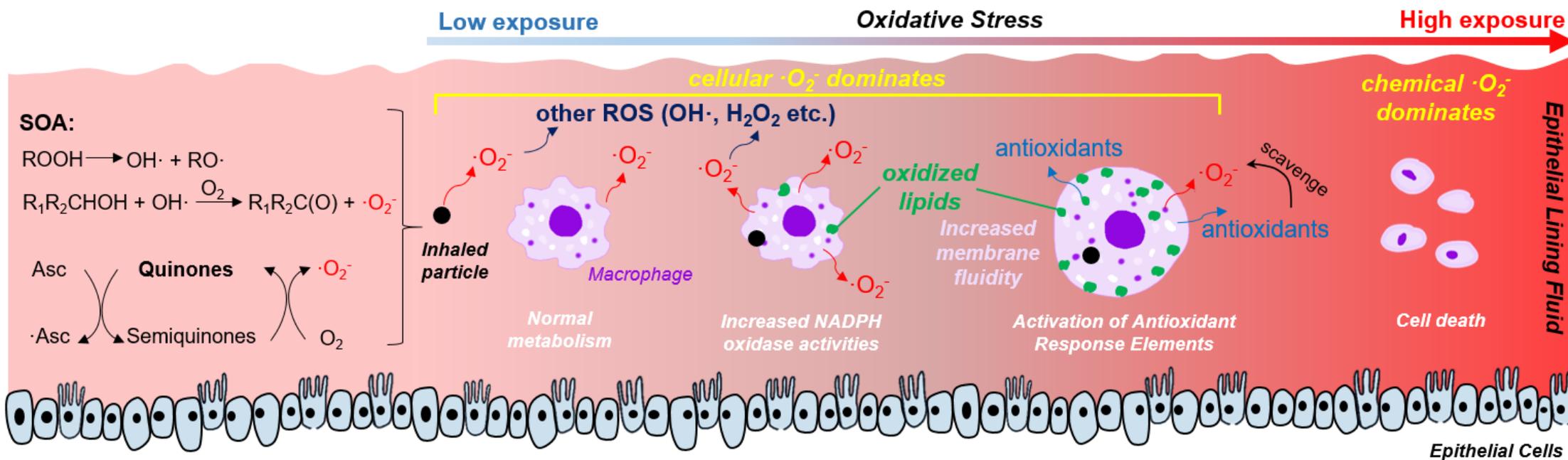
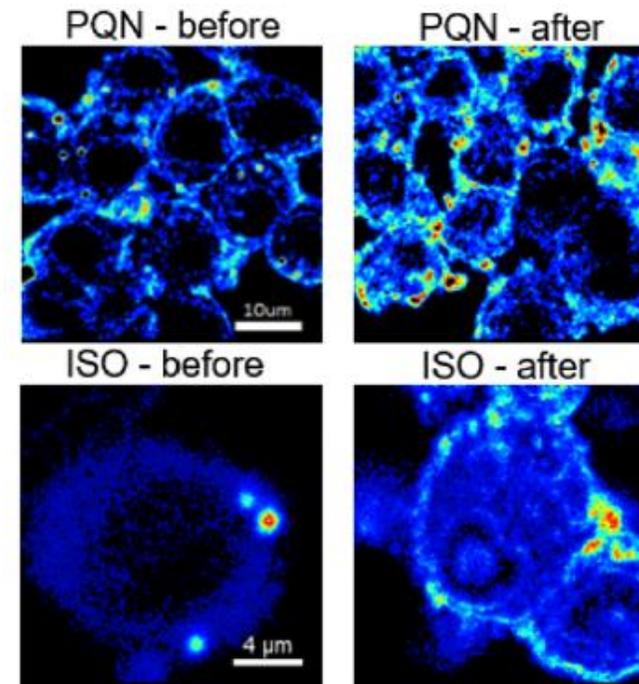
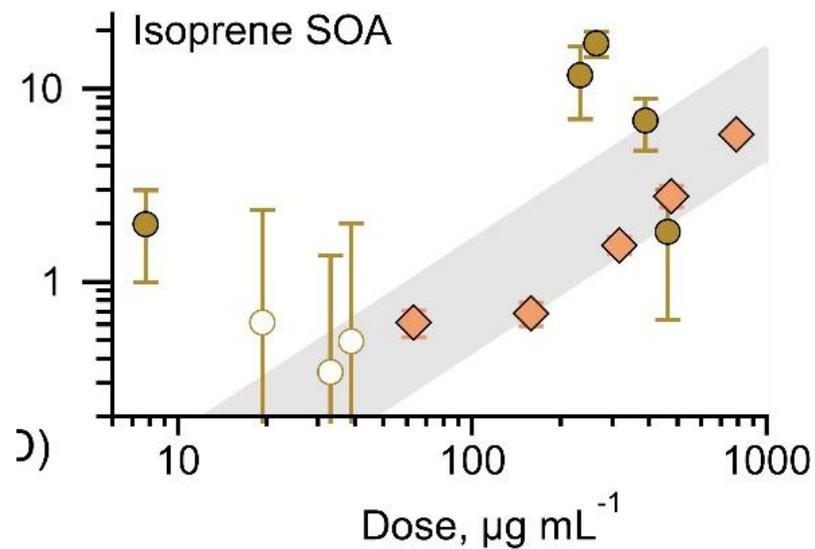
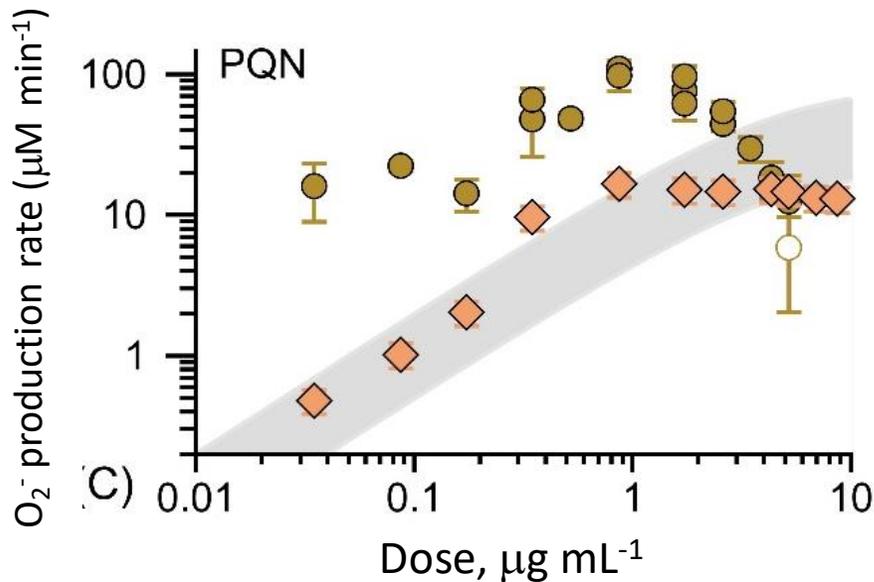
ALPACA campaign, OP-OH by Rodney Weber (GIT)



*Edwards et al., to be submitted*

# Cellular vs. Chemical ROS

Fang et al., ES&T, 2022



# Conclusions

- Atmospheric PM contains reactive and redox-active compounds, which can induce ROS formation in lung fluid to cause oxidative stress.
- Decomposition of organic hydroperoxides is a major ROS source in SOA, which can be promoted by photolysis and Fenton-like reactions.
- KM-SUB-ELF model can estimate ROS levels in lung fluid, which can be applied into epidemiological studies, showing strong associations with a variety of adverse health outcomes.
- Model needs to be improved: chemistry with other antioxidants, cellular processes, enzymes, synergistic effects by other pollutants, ....

# Acknowledgements



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- Bill Simpson (UAF), Rodney Weber (Georgia Tech)
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