# **Kinetic modelling of secondary organic aerosol (SOA) formation:** connecting the data points

#### **Thomas Berkemeier**

Max Planck Institute for Chemistry

Multiphase Chemistry Department

t.berkemeier@mpic.de





IAMA Conference Davis, CA 12/04/2019

## Fundamental Secondary Organic Aerosol (SOA) Properties





Koop *et al*. PCCP (2011)

## Consequences of SOA Properties



### Feedback & Interaction Between SOA Properties



Approach

## Interactions of Physical-Chemical Properties of SOA





 $[Z_i]_g \longleftrightarrow [Z_i]_g$ 

 $[Z_i]_{b2} \longleftrightarrow [Z_i]_{b2}$  $[Z_i]_{b3} \longleftrightarrow [Z_i]_{b3}$  $[Z_i]_{b4} \longleftrightarrow [Z_i]_{b4}$ 

 $[Z_i]_{bk} \longleftrightarrow [Z_i]_{bk}$ 

KM-GAP\*2.0

dt

 $[Z_i]_{gg}$ 

## Kinetic Multi-Layer Model KM-GAP 2.0



Aerosol Particle: Multiphase Chemical System



Complications for treatment of SOA formation:

- Particle growth leads to imbalance in layer sizes.
- Evolving concentration gradients require high initial layer count.
- Low computational efficiency.

## Kinetic Multi-Layer Model KM-GAP 2.0



Aerosol Particle: Multiphase Chemical System

New: Adaptive Layer Splitting and Merging Scheme (size and gradient)



# Modelling Strategy for SOA Chamber Experiments

#### **Kinetic Model**

#### Chemical Mechanism (semi-explicit)

#### Volatility

![](_page_7_Figure_4.jpeg)

## Key Model Parameters and Global Optimization Algorithm

#### **Model Parameters**

![](_page_8_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### MCGA - Global Optimization Algorithm (Inverse Modelling Approach)

![](_page_8_Figure_4.jpeg)

T. Berkemeier, M. Ammann, U. K. Krieger, T. Peter, P. Spichtinger, U. Pöschl, M. Shiraiwa and A. J. Huisman, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, **2017** 

## **Environmental Chamber Experiments**

#### **Georgia Tech Environmental Chamber**

12 m<sup>3</sup> Teflon bag

![](_page_9_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Picture_4.jpeg)

Sally Ng

#### **Reaction System**

 $NO_3$  oxidation via injection of  $N_2O_5$ 

![](_page_9_Picture_8.jpeg)

(+)-α-pinene

limonene

Conditions

Instruments

< 5 % RH

 $(NH_4)_2SO_4$  seed

HR-ToF-AMS

![](_page_9_Picture_17.jpeg)

## Environmental Chamber Experiments

![](_page_10_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Pure Precursor Experiments – Well-mixed Particle Phase

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Mixed Precursor Experiments – Well-mixed Particle Phase

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Viscosity-Dependent Modelling Results

![](_page_13_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **HIGH VISCOSITY PARTICLE**

(A) SOA formation is not strongly affected by viscous phase state.

(B) Semi-volatile molecules take longer to evaporate / are trapped inside.

**Diffusion barrier could increase (C)** over time due to crust formation.

low

### Viscosity-Dependent Modelling Results – Sensitivity Study

![](_page_14_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### SIMULTANEOUS OXIDATION

![](_page_14_Figure_3.jpeg)

# Elevated viscosity can explain slow evaporation of SOA

Application of **Stokes Einstein** equation yields viscosity of  $10^8$ Pa s, typical for  $\alpha$ -pinene SOA.

## Viscosity-Dependent Modelling Results – Composition-Dependence

![](_page_15_Figure_1.jpeg)

Scenarios are indistinguishable with the current set of input data.

**LIMONENE SOA** 

Summary

Secondary Organic Aerosol (SOA) formation from monoterpene precursor mixtures can be described using kinetic multi-layer models, but the gas-phase chemical mechanism has to be simplified.

- 2 **SOA partitioning** can occur as **non-equilibrium process**, either due to **formation of oligomers** or **viscous phase state**.
- 3 **SOA yields** were mostly unaffected by mixing precursors in this study, but **evaporation behavior** was strongly affected.

Oligomerization and diffusion effects are difficult to separate
from looking at SMPS data. There is a need to combine different experimental techniques to solve this puzzle.

 $[Z_i]_g \longleftrightarrow [Z_i]_g$ 

#### 15

# Multiphase Modelling Team

Max Planck Institute for Chemistry, Mainz

**Multiphase Chemistry Department** 

Thomas Berkemeier (t.berkemeier@mpic.de)

Steven Lelieveld, Coraline Mattei, Jake Wilson

![](_page_17_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Figure_6.jpeg)