

Formation of highly oxidized multifunctional compounds in alkane autoxidation: relevance to atmospheric and combustion chemistry

Mani Sarathy¹, Zhandong Wang¹, Matti P Rissanen², Mikael Ehn²

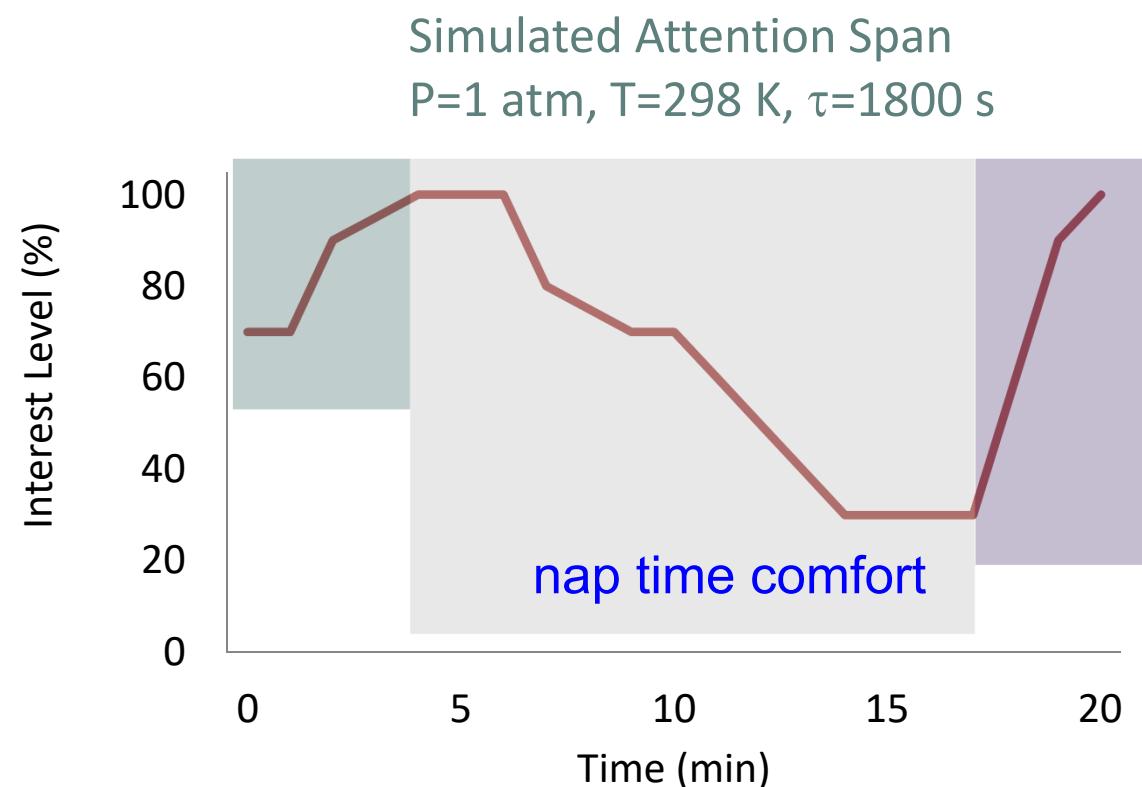
1 Clean Combustion Research Center, KAUST

2 University of Helsinki (INAR)



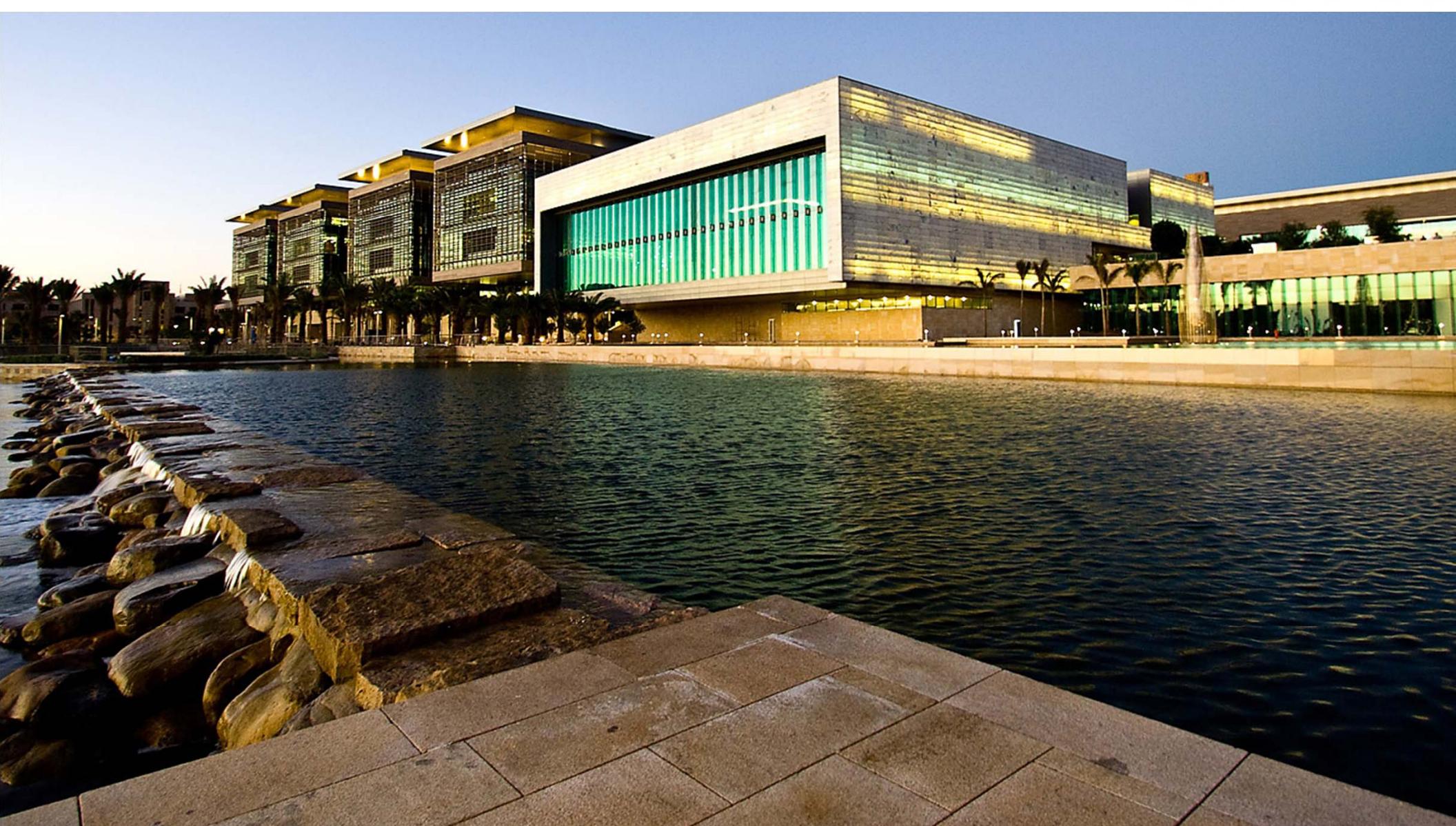
Presentation Outline/Timeline

- Introduction
- Auto-oxidation
 - Background
 - Combustion
 - Atmosphere
- Questions









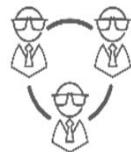
KAUST Quick Facts



940
Students



150
Faculty



400
Postdocs



310
Research Scientists /Staff



6700
Community
members



2200
Workforce

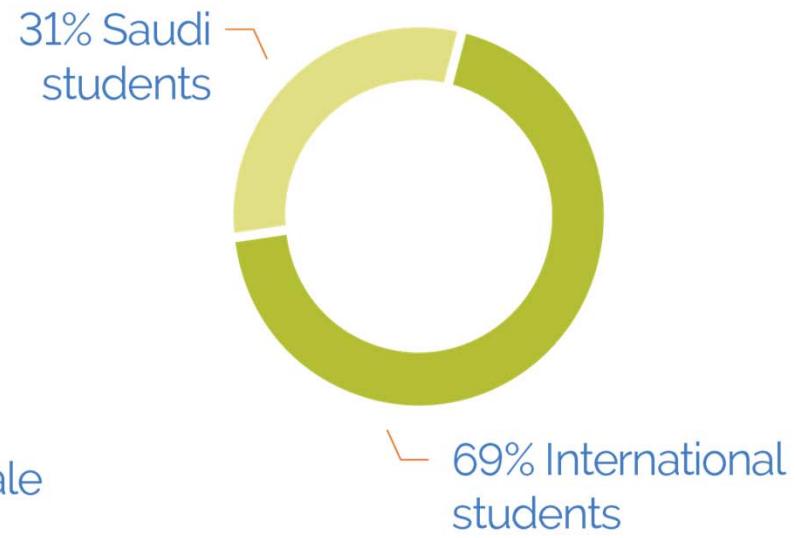
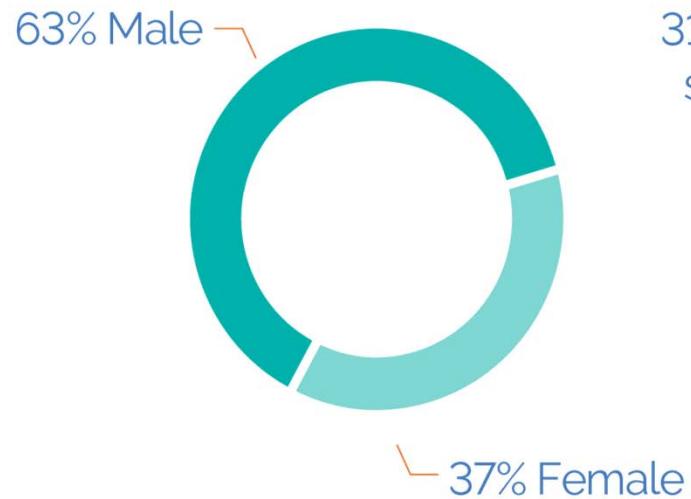
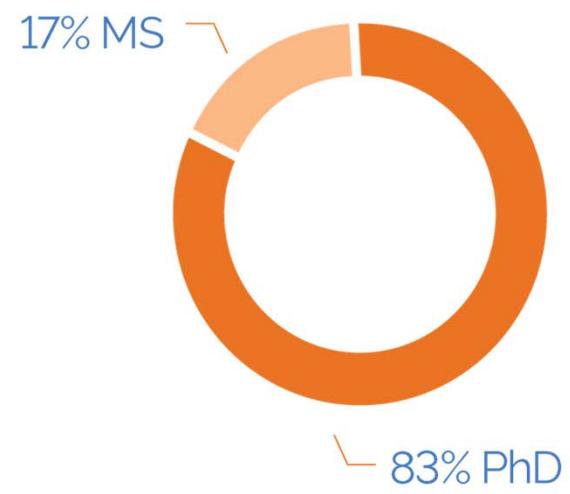


1460
School children



100
Community
80
Workforce
Nationalities

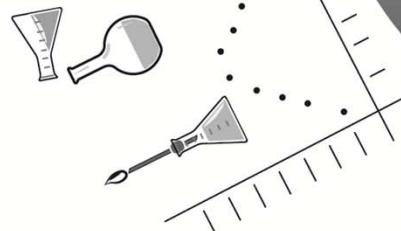
KAUST Current Student Body



**Chemical
Kinetics
Modeling**



**Reacting Flow
Experiments**



**Computer-Aided
Engineering**

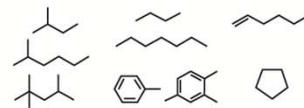


**Our research interests
and expertise**

**Fuels/Chemicals
Production**



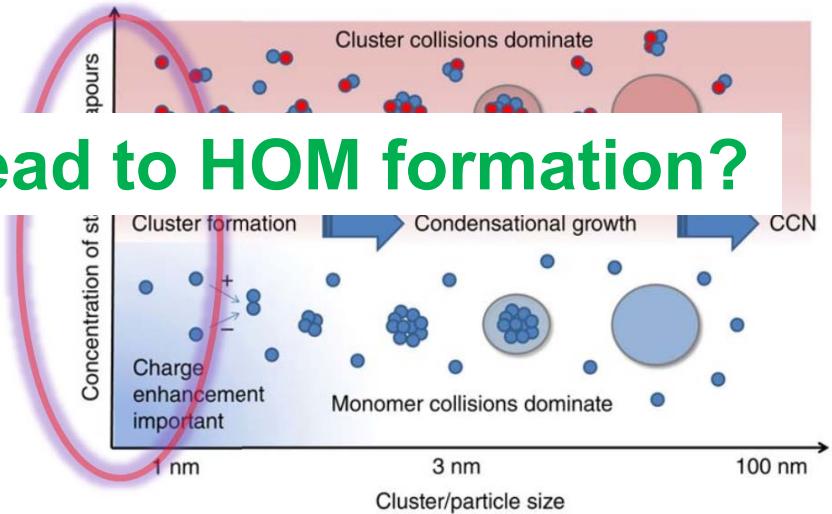
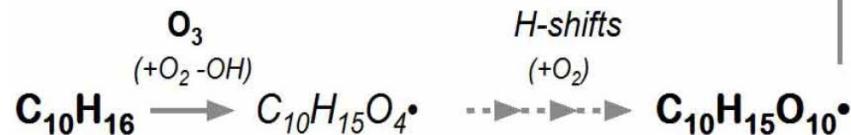
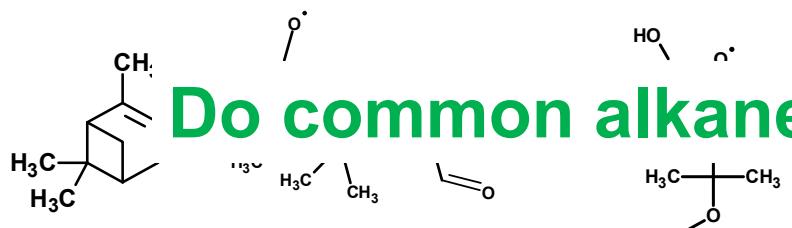
Complex Molecules



Auto-oxidation is important in atmospheric and combustion systems



- **Gas-phase autoxidation** is a pseudo-unimolecular fast lane to molecular growth and reduction in vapor pressure
- Results in **low volatile HOM** (=highly oxidized multifunctional compounds)
- Condensable **low volatile vapors form SOA** (=secondary organic aerosol)
- **HOMs lead to auto-ignition** in combustion engines



From: Lehtipalo, K. et al.
Nature Comm. 2016



Zhandong Wang,
Sarathy



Dagaut



Kohse-Höinghaus



Popolan-Vaida, Leone



Hansen, Taatjes



Moshammer

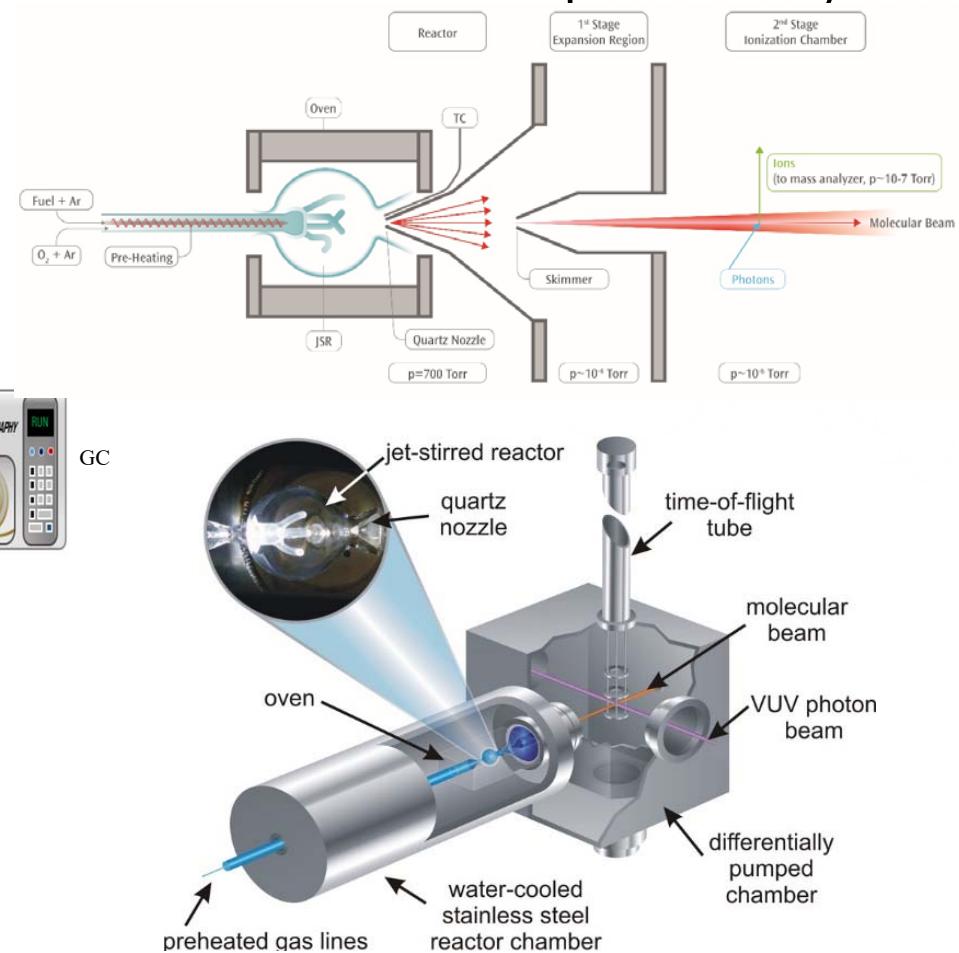
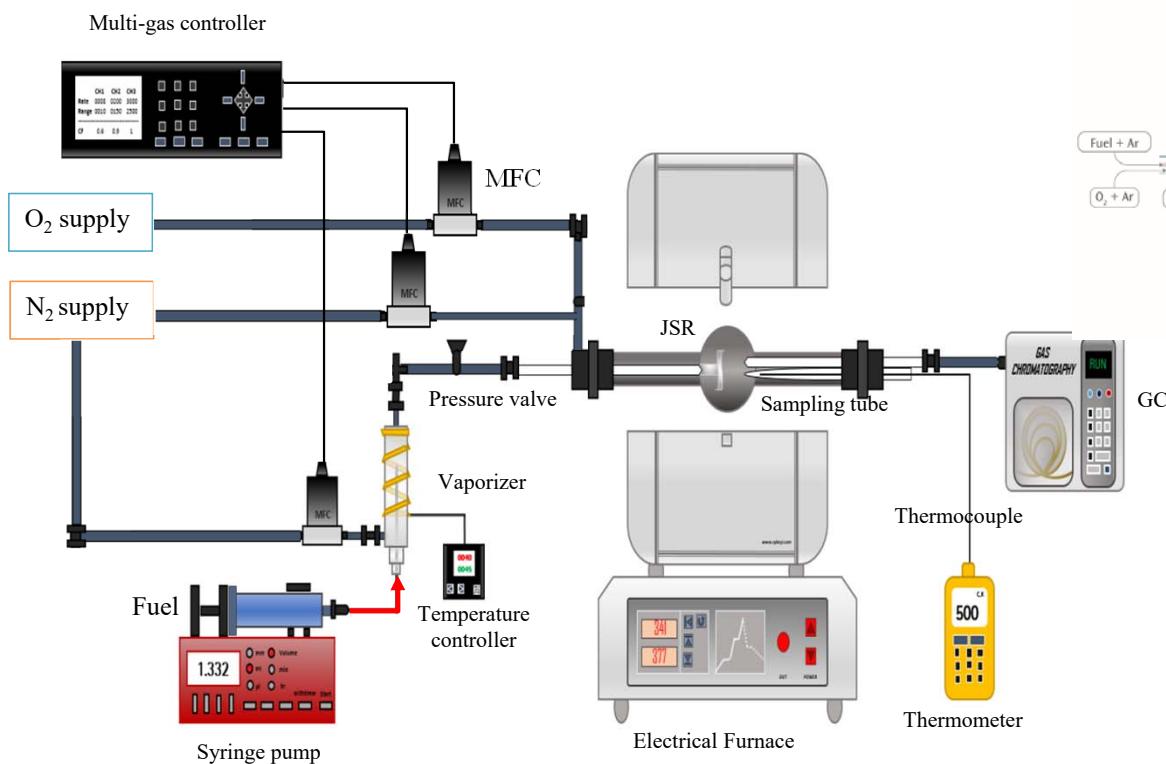


COMBUSTION

High fidelity experiments to explore auto-oxidation chemistry



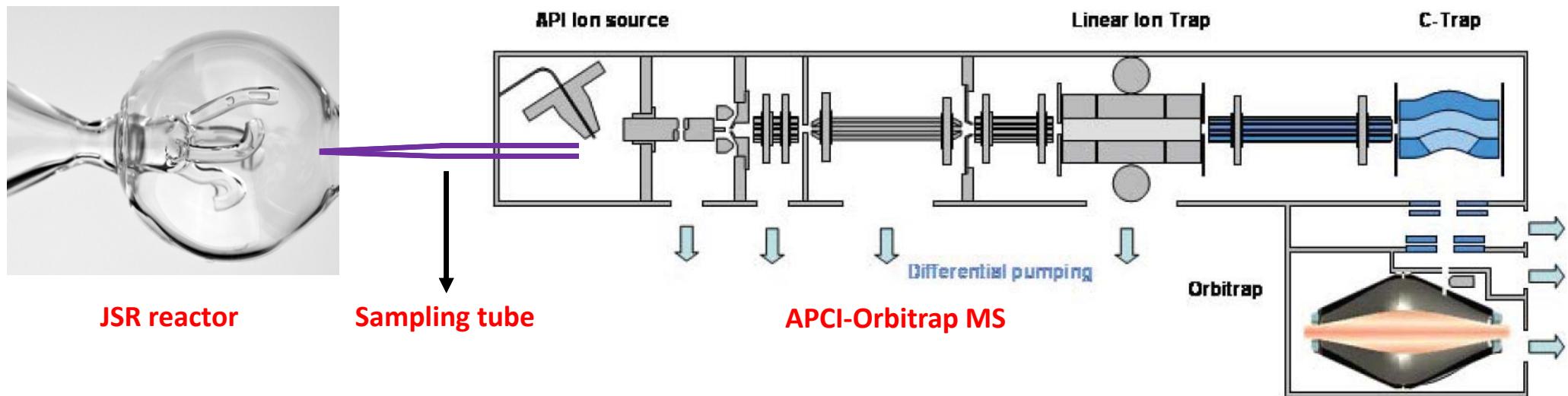
- Jet-Stirred Reactor-Synchrotron Radiation Photoionization Mass Spectrometry



High fidelity experiments to explore auto-oxidation chemistry



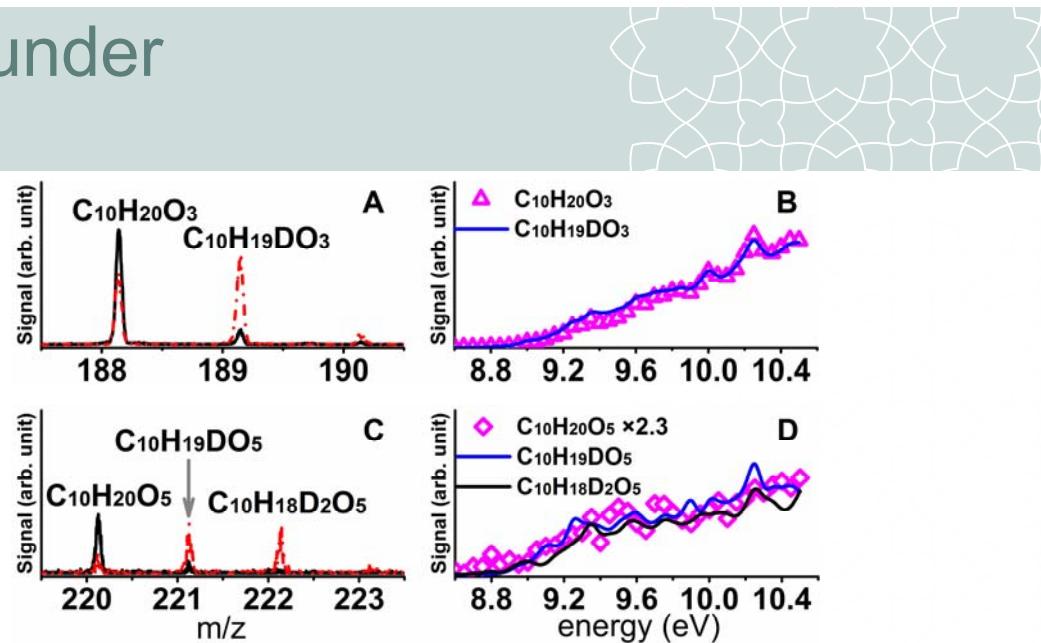
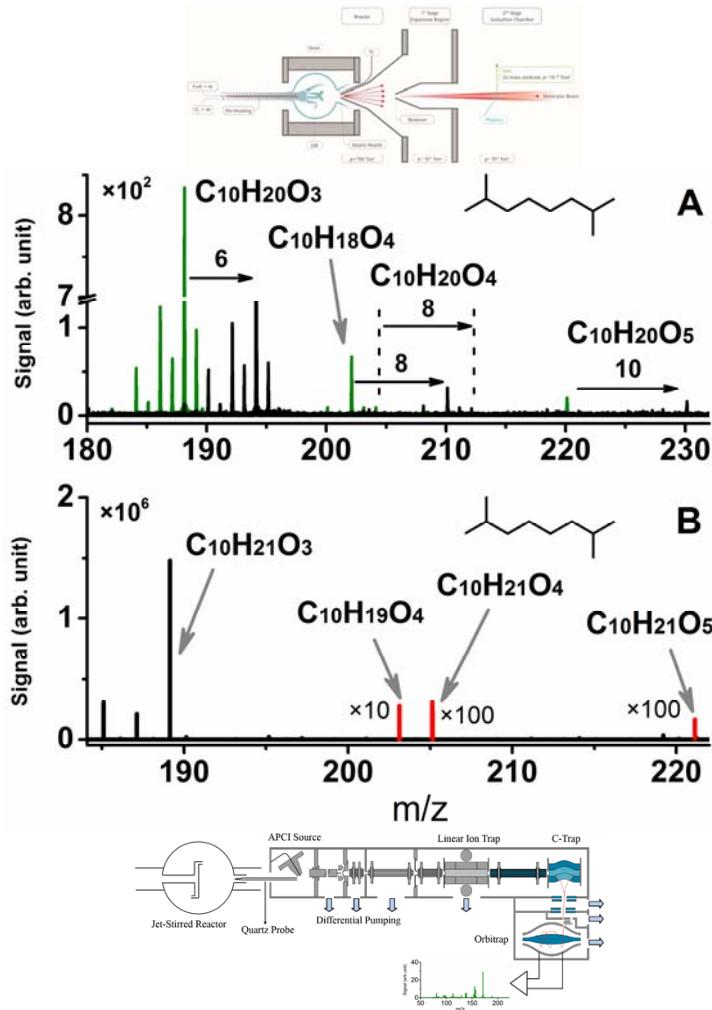
- JSR-APCI-Orbitrap mass spectrometer analysis, KAUST
 - ✓ Atmospheric pressure chemical ionization (APCI), soft ionization, mono-charged ions, proton transfer ($M+1$)
 - ✓ High mass resolution: 100000 to 200000 and Ultra-high detection limit: 1 ppt



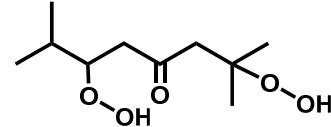
Wang et al., Combust Flame, 2017

Auto-oxidation intermediates under combustion conditions

T = 520 K
P = 1 atm
 $\tau = 2 \text{ s}$



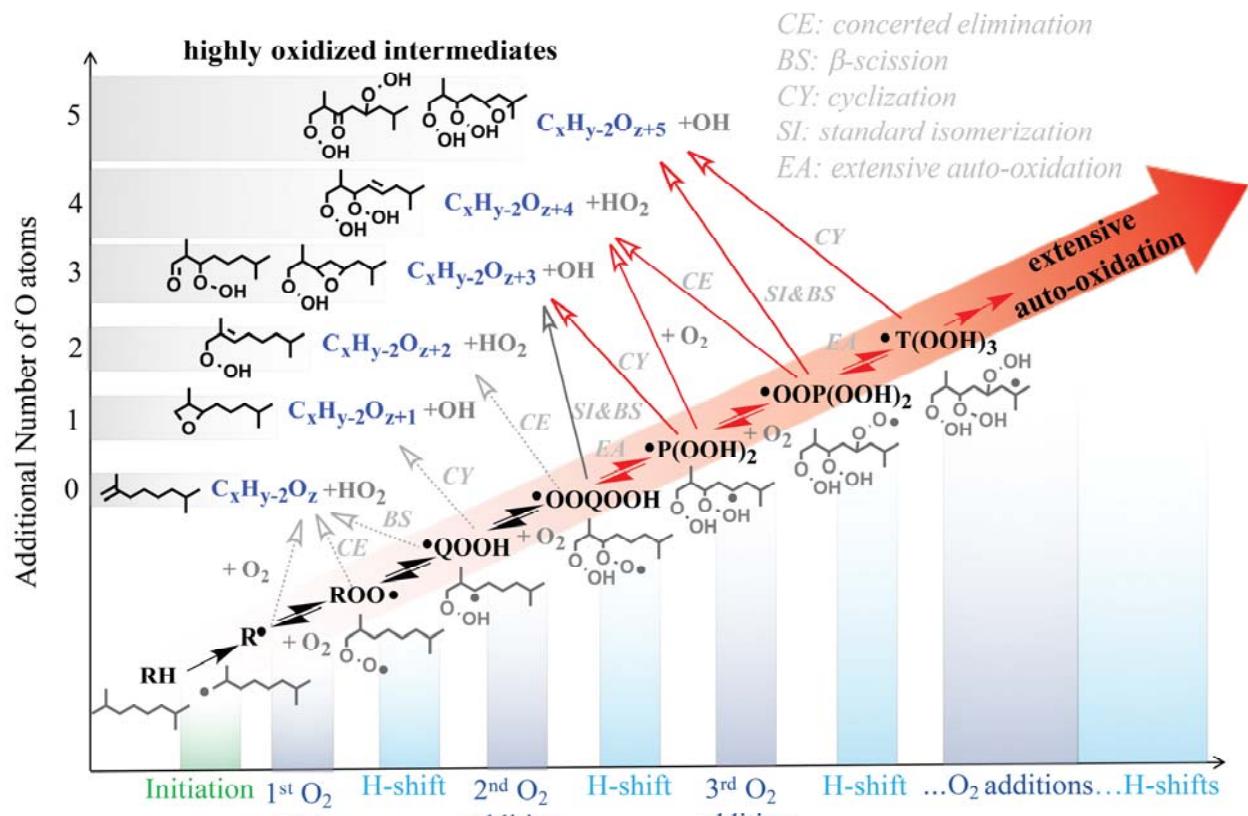
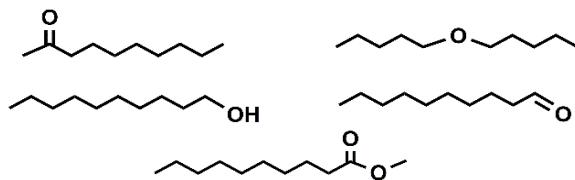
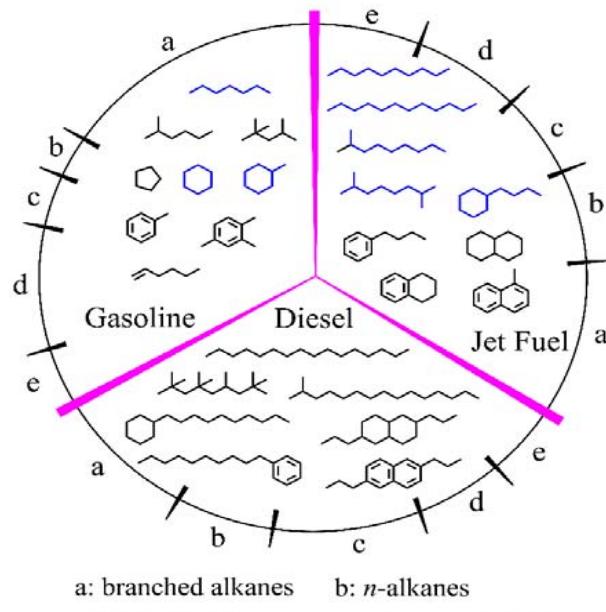
O₃ species has one –OOH



O₅ species has two –OOHs

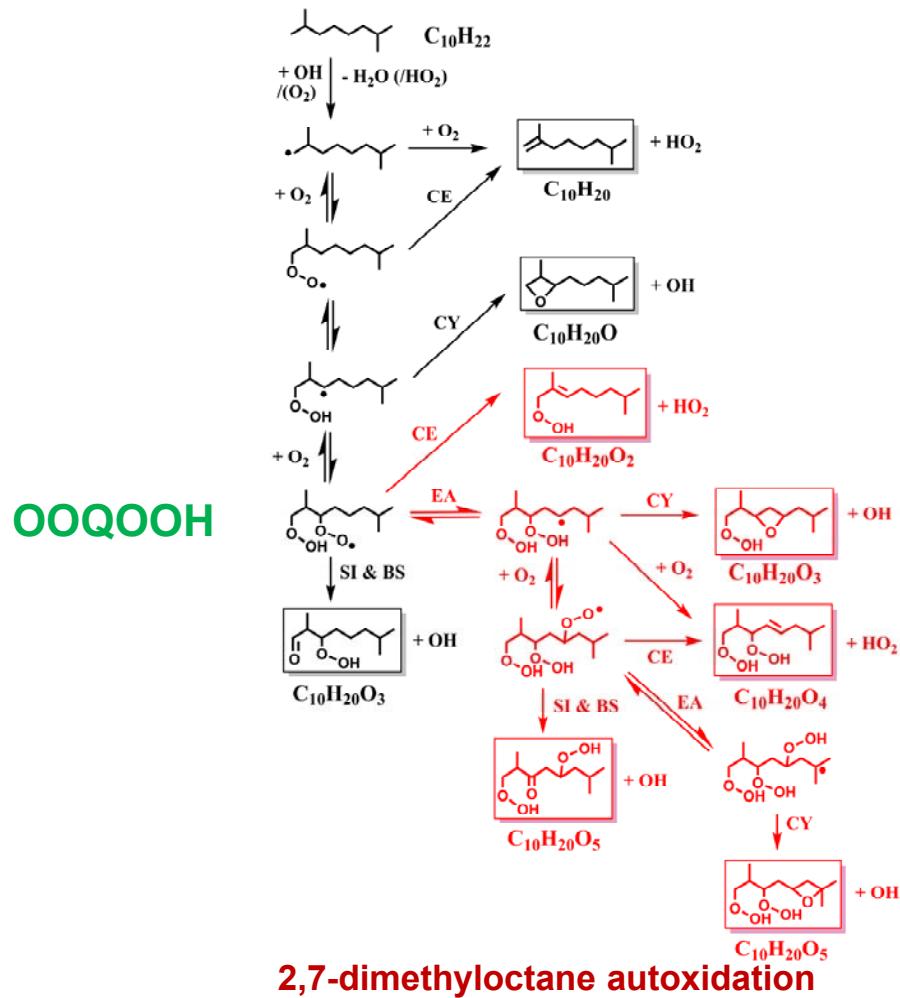
Wang et al. PNAS (2017), 114, 13102

Multiple O₂ addition auto-oxidation scheme



Wang et al. PNAS (2017), 114, 13102

3rd O₂ addition auto-oxidation scheme



OOQOOH radicals

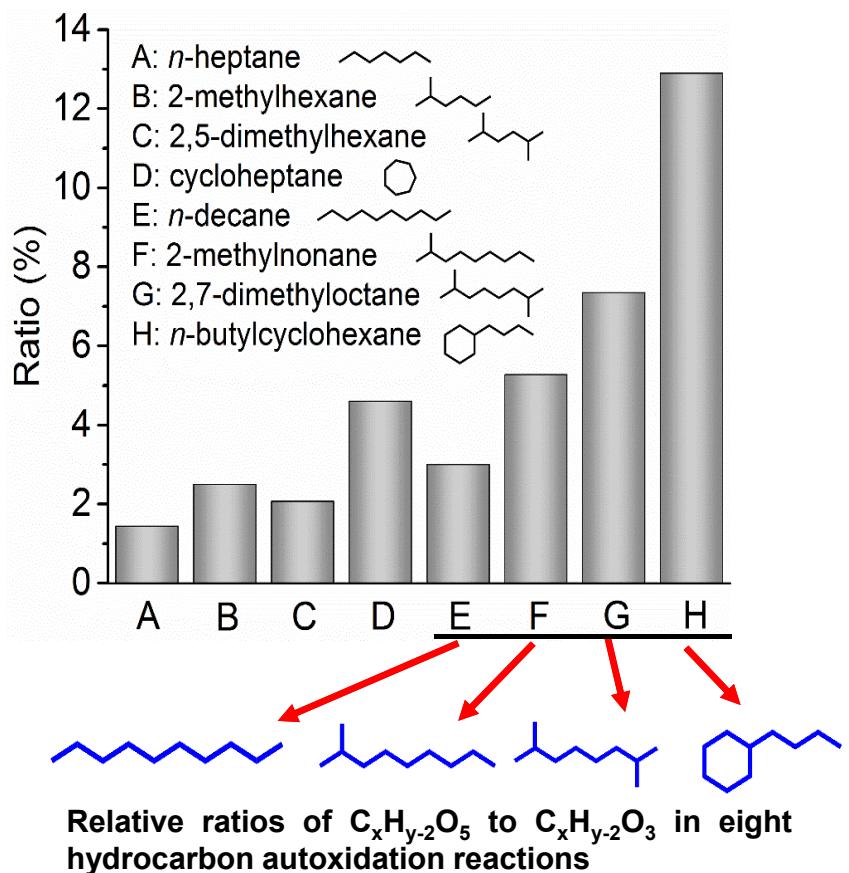
2nd O₂ addition:
intramolecular H-atom abstraction of the C-H alpha to the -OOH group

3rd O₂ addition:
intramolecular H-atom abstraction of the C-H not alpha to the -OOH group

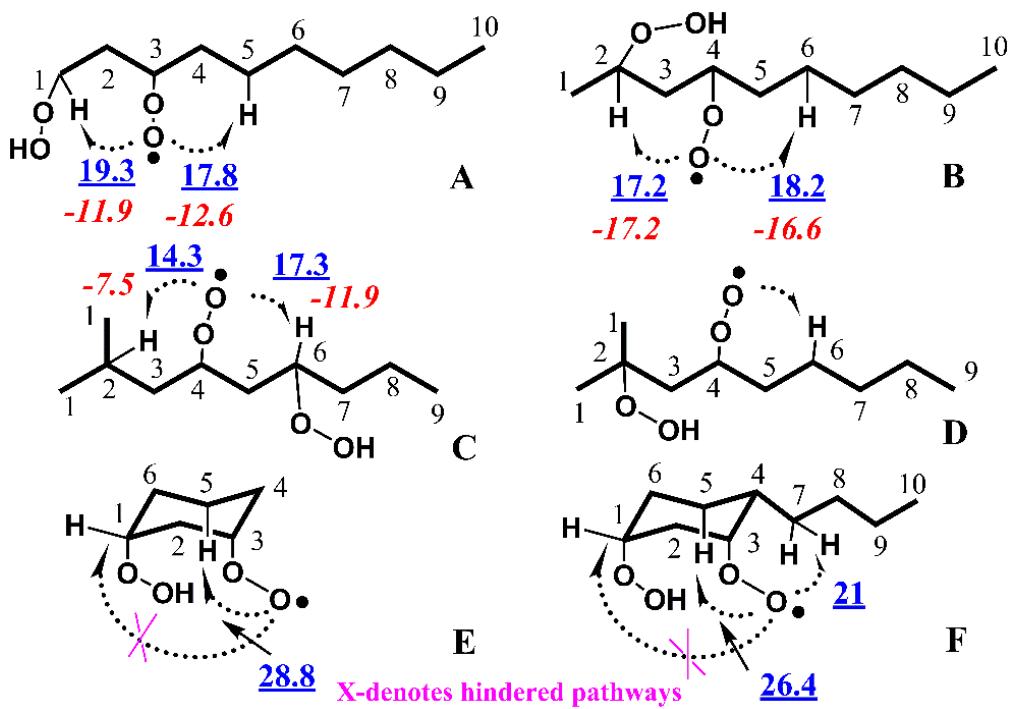
Auto-oxidation is structure dependent



3rd O₂ addition autoxidation tendency



α,γ -OOQOOH intramolecular H-abstraction

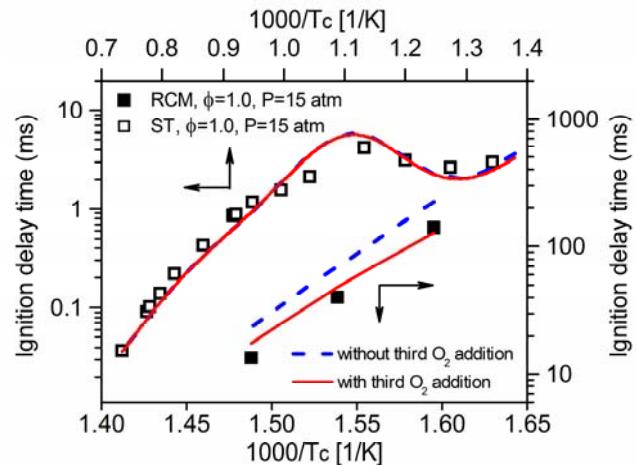


Blue underlined numbers denote activation energy, unit is kcal/mol; red italicized numbers denote entropy change, unit is cal/mol/K.

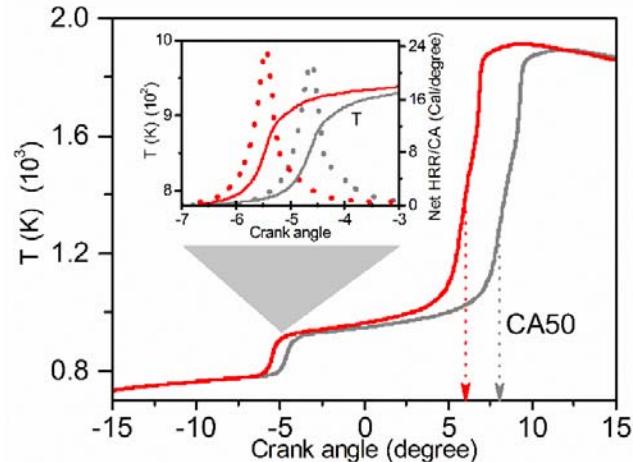
Wang et al. PNAS (2017), 114, 13102

Multiple O₂ additions promote ignition

- Effect of 3rd O₂ addition reaction scheme on ignition



ST (top-left axes) and RCM (bottom-right axes) auto-ignition delay times for stoichiometric *n*-hexane/air mixtures at 15 atm



Crank angle dependent temperature profiles and net heat release rate (HRR) per crank angle for *n*-hexane/air mixtures in an HCCI engine

- Third O₂ addition promotes the ignition of *n*-hexane at RCM conditions
- Engine ignition is advance when third O₂ addition is considered
- Production of HOM increases advances OH radical production.



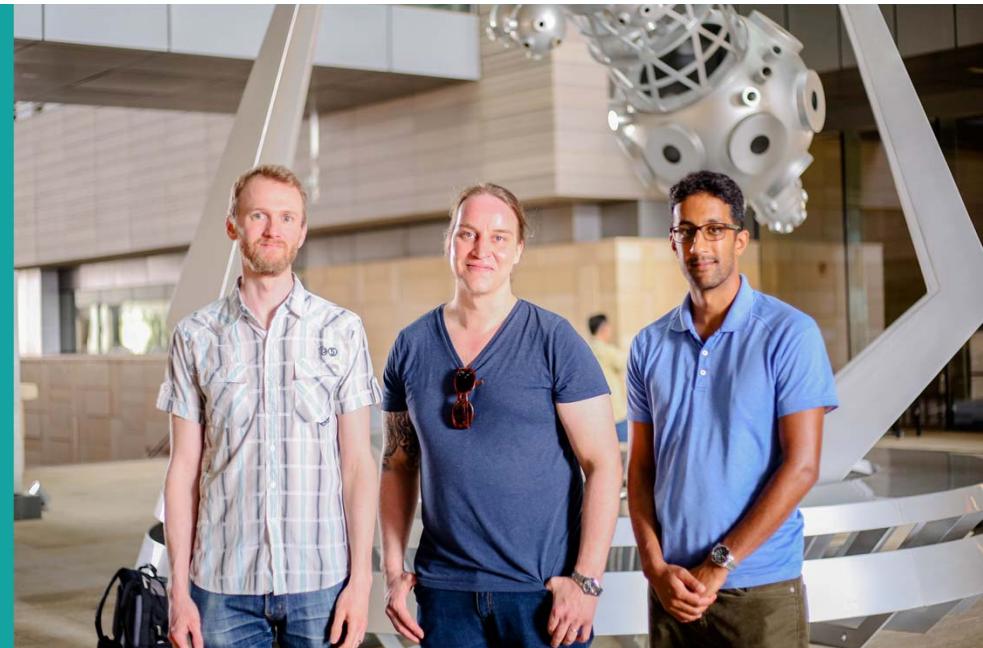
Monge-Palacios
Sarathy



Zhandong Wang



Rissanen, Ehn

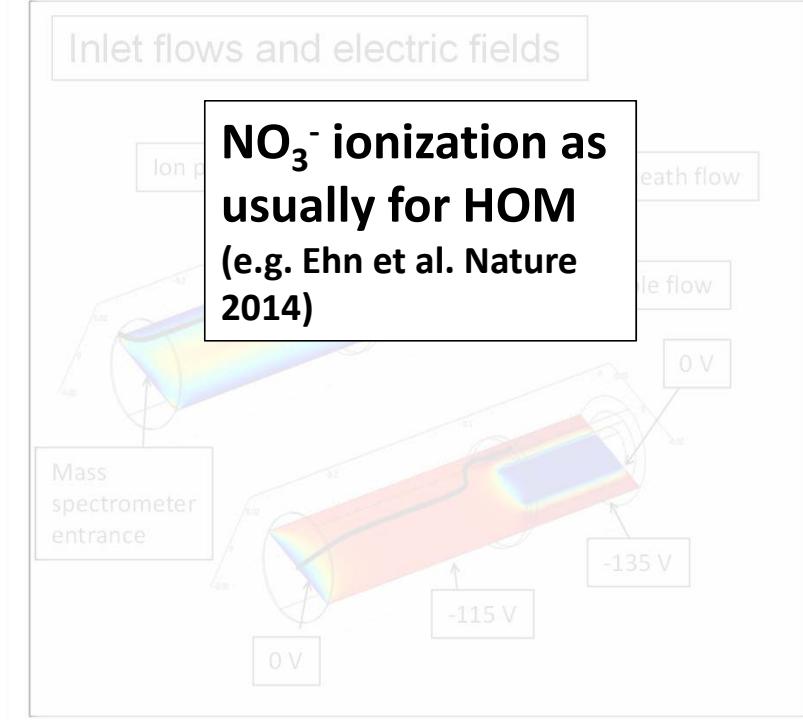
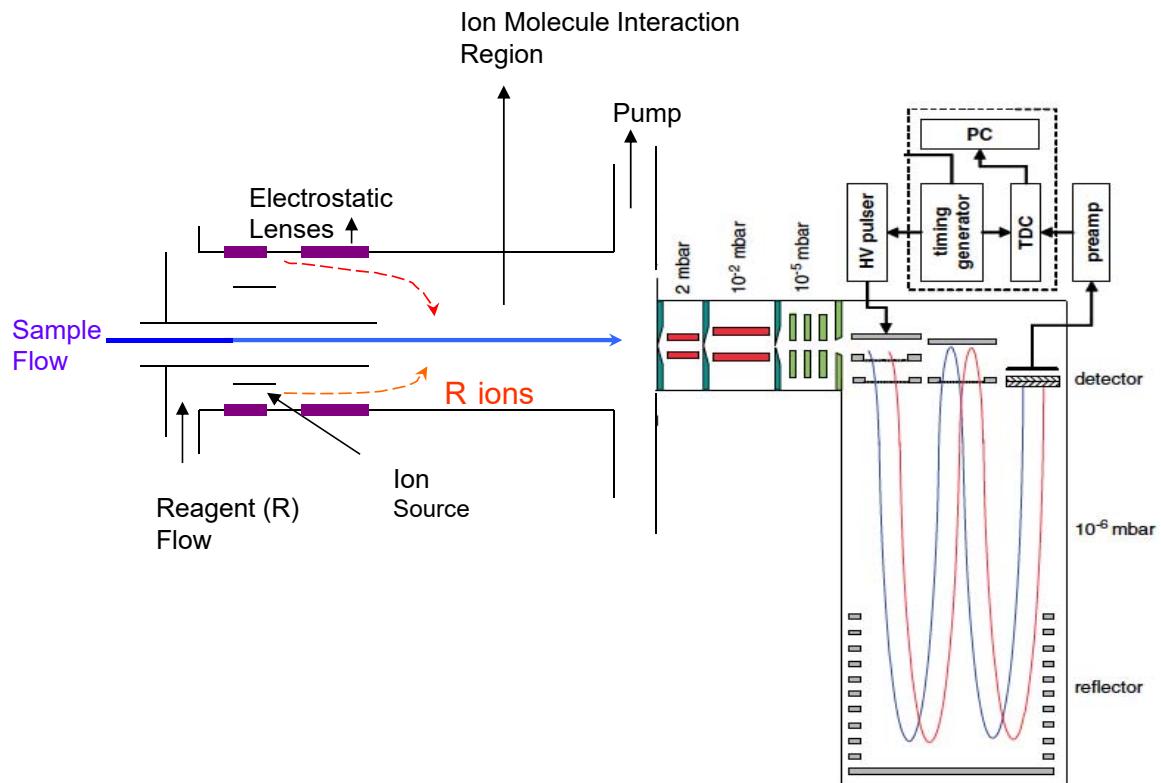


ATMOSPHERE

High fidelity experiments to explore auto-oxidation chemistry



CI-API-ToF – Chemical Ionization Atmospheric Pressure interface Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometer

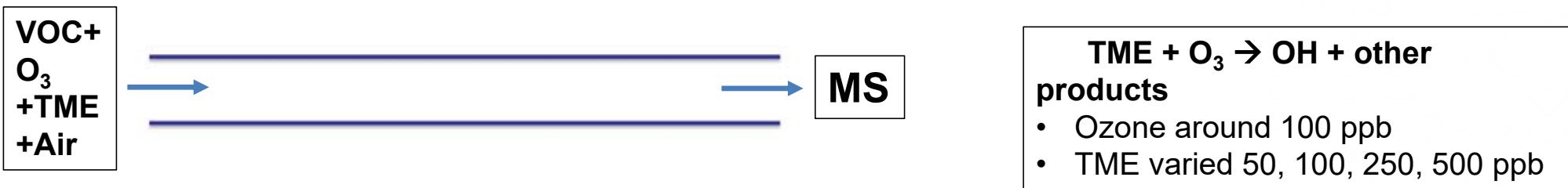


**NO₃⁻ ionization as usually for HOM
(e.g. Ehn et al. Nature 2014)**

Experiments under atmospheric conditions



(1) VOC+TME+O₃

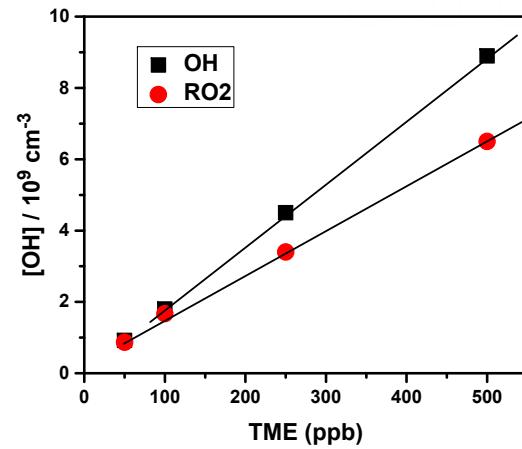


1 m Quartz 2.4 cm i.d. Reactor, High [VOC] ≈ 10 ppm, Residence time ~3s, Room *T* and *p*

Simple simulation for [RO₂]:

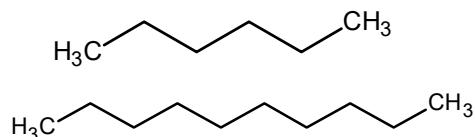
1. TME + O₃ → OH + TME_RO₂
2. VOC + OH → RO₂
3. TME + OH → TME₂_RO₂

[OH] and [RO₂] at 3 seconds for butylcyclohexane:



Straight chain C, H

- *n*-hexane
- *n*-dodecane



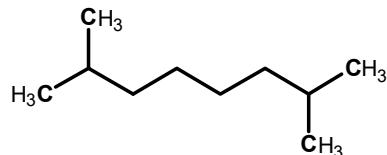
Straight chain C, H, O

- Heptanal
- Decanal, Decanol, 2-decanone



Branched

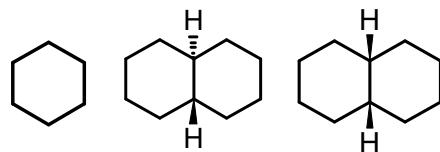
- 2,7-dimethyl octane



Alkane autoxidation Model compounds

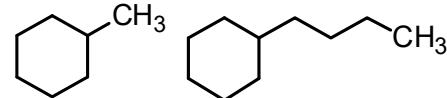
Cyclic

- Cyclohexane
- Decalin



Branched and cyclic

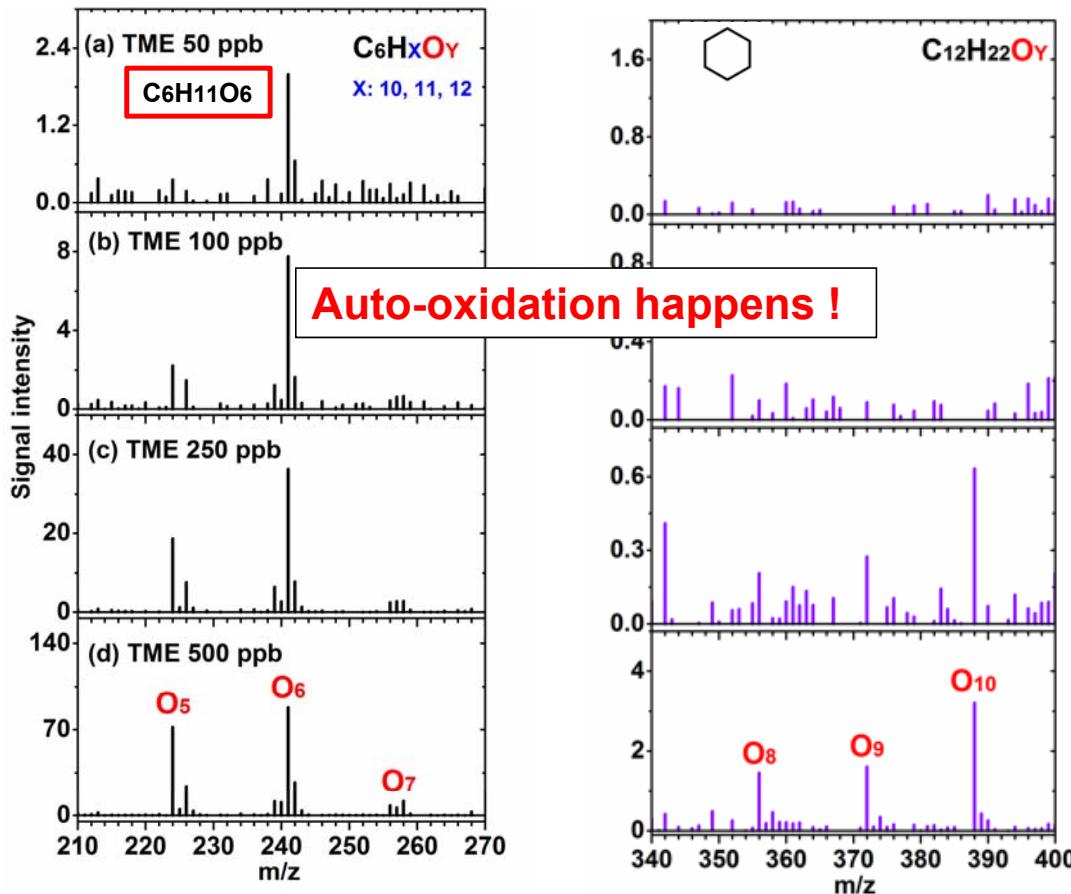
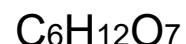
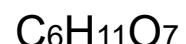
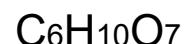
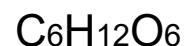
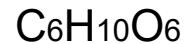
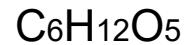
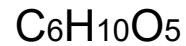
- Methyl cyclohexene, butyl cyclohexene



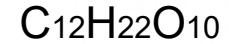
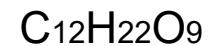
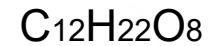
Cyclohexane (C_6H_{12}) + TME + O_3



Monomers



Dimers



The dominant RO₂ radical: $C_6H_{11}O_6$



cycloalkane vs aldehyde

Monomers

C₇H₁₂O₅

C₇H₁₄O₅

C₇H₁₂O₆

C₇H₁₃O₆

C₇H₁₄O₆

C₇H₁₂O₇

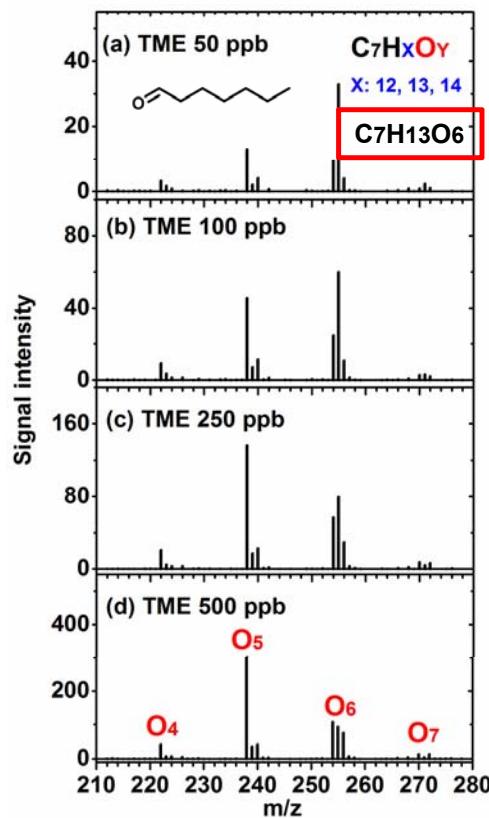
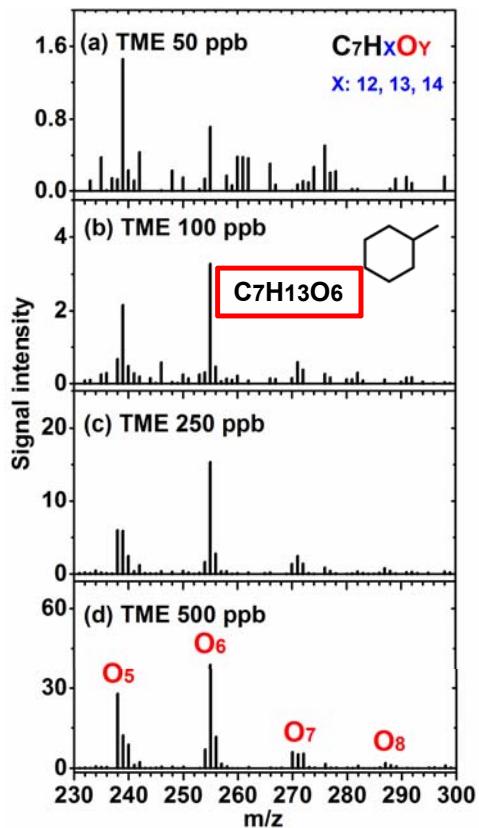
C₇H₁₃O₇

C₇H₁₄O₇

C₇H₁₂O₈

C₇H₁₃O₈

C₇H₁₄O₈



Monomers

C₇H₁₂O₄

C₇H₁₂O₅

C₇H₁₄O₅

C₇H₁₂O₆

C₇H₁₃O₆

C₇H₁₄O₆

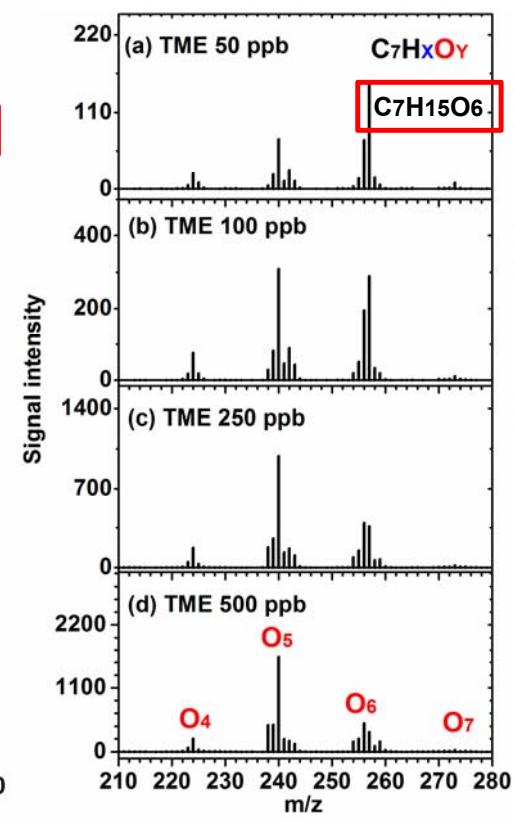
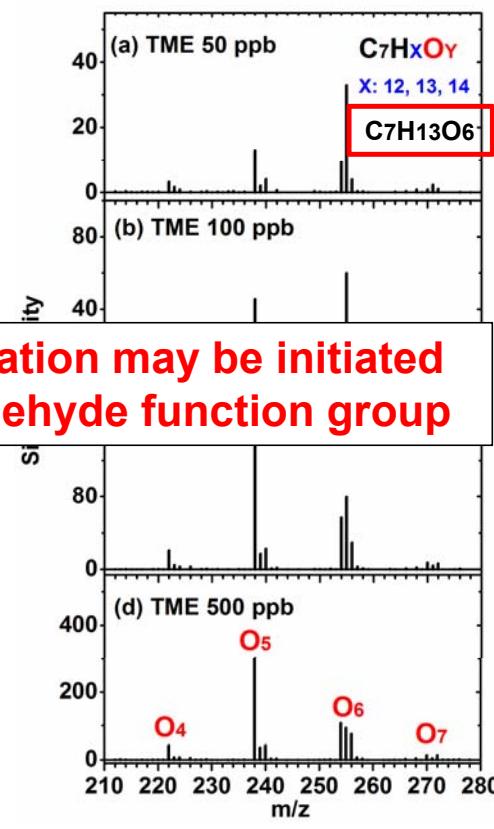
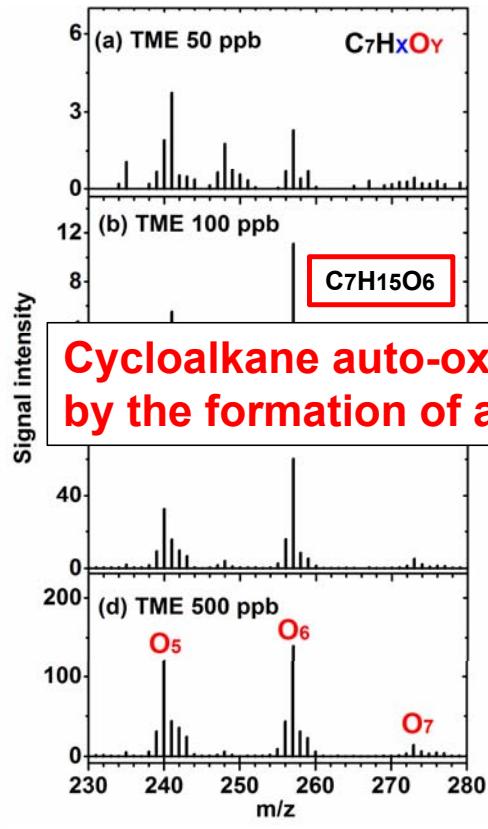
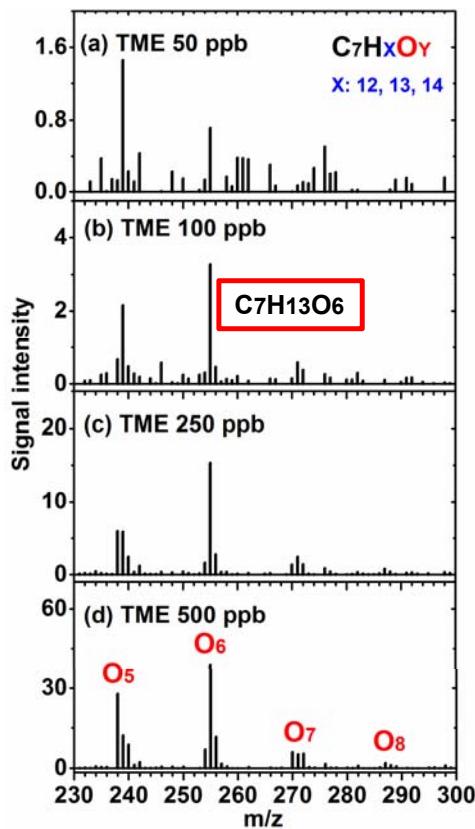
C₇H₁₂O₇

C₇H₁₃O₇

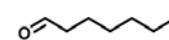
C₇H₁₄O₇

Both the dominant RO₂ radical: C₇H₁₃O₆

cycloalkane vs aldehyde +D₂O



Cycloalkane auto-oxidation may be initiated by the formation of aldehyde function group



In both cases C₇H₁₃O₆ radicals has two acid H atoms

Cyclohexane oxidation → going for that prompt RO₆ radical!



Can H-scrambling avoid decomposition?
(e.g. Knap, H. C. et al)

Can you escape
this carbonyl
forming reaction?

Does this
need to
decompose?



*RO intermediate needed to break the ring, right?
**Leads to odd oxygen RO₂ (i.e., RO₃)
→ So then we need two times RO₂ + RO₂ to get to RO₆
(...also RO₂ + HO₂)

Need to escape
potential termination
reactions!

Summary



- Auto-oxidation under combustion and atmospheric conditions shares many similarities
- Experimental and theoretical techniques/skills from both fields complement each other
- Alkanes auto-oxidation leads to HOM formation in both environments, albeit the underlying chemistry is different.
- RO₂+RO₂ : atmosphere, RO₂=QOOH : combustion





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