

# Toward automated inclusion of representative autoxidation chemistry in explicit models

Lauri Franzon

Richard Valorso, Marie Camredon, Bernard Aumont, Julia  
Lee-Taylor, John Orlando, Anni Savolainen, Siddharth Iyer,  
Matti Rissanen & Theo Kurtén



University of  
Helsinki



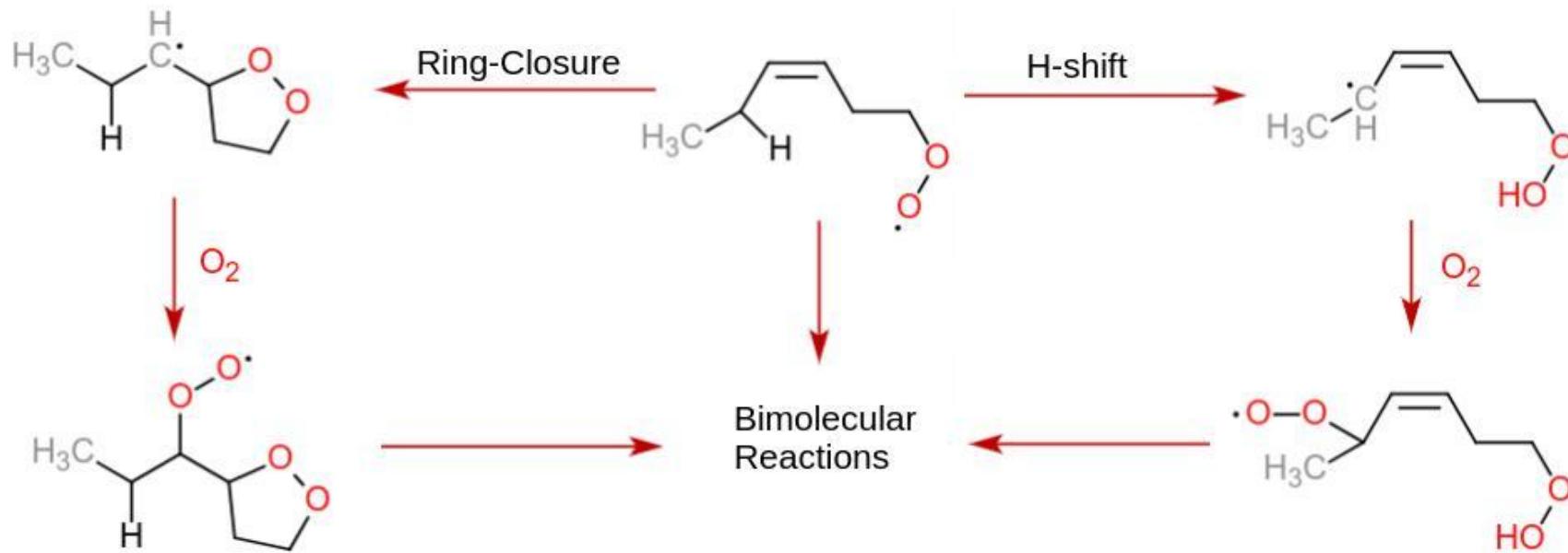
European Geophysical Union General Assembly

29.4.2025

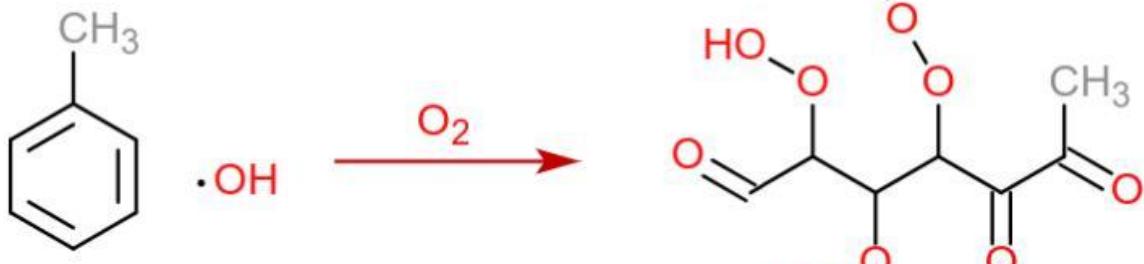
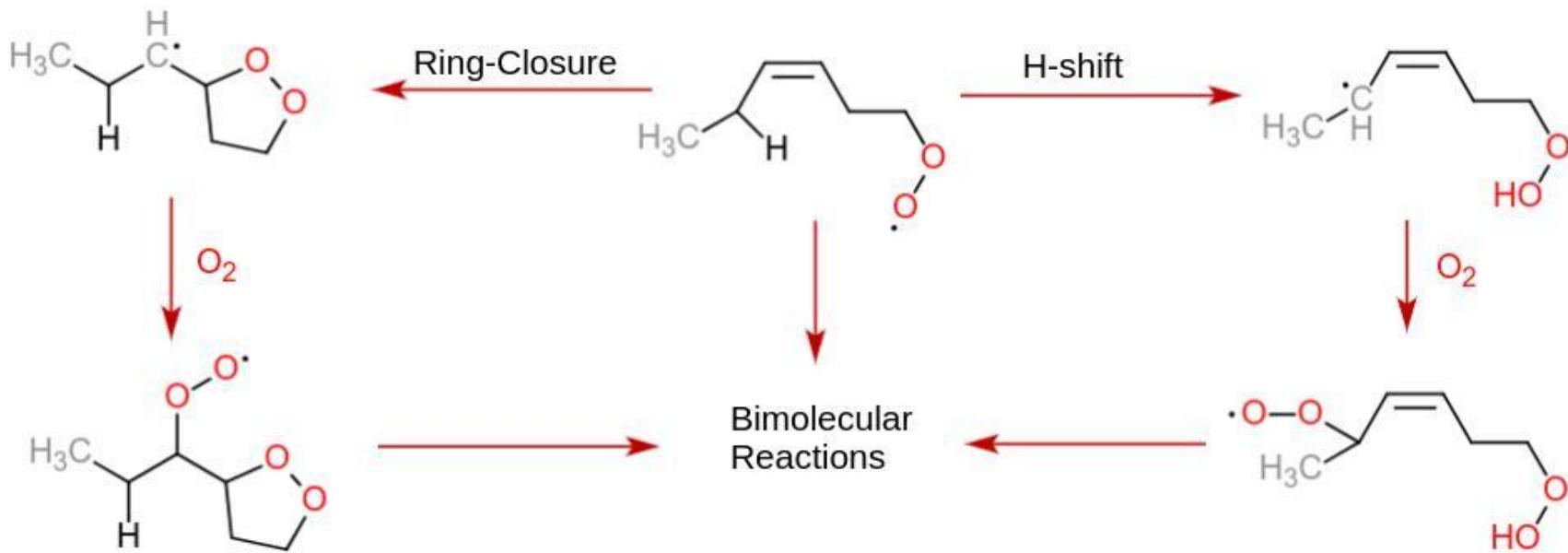
Tampere  
University



# Autoxidation: What and why?



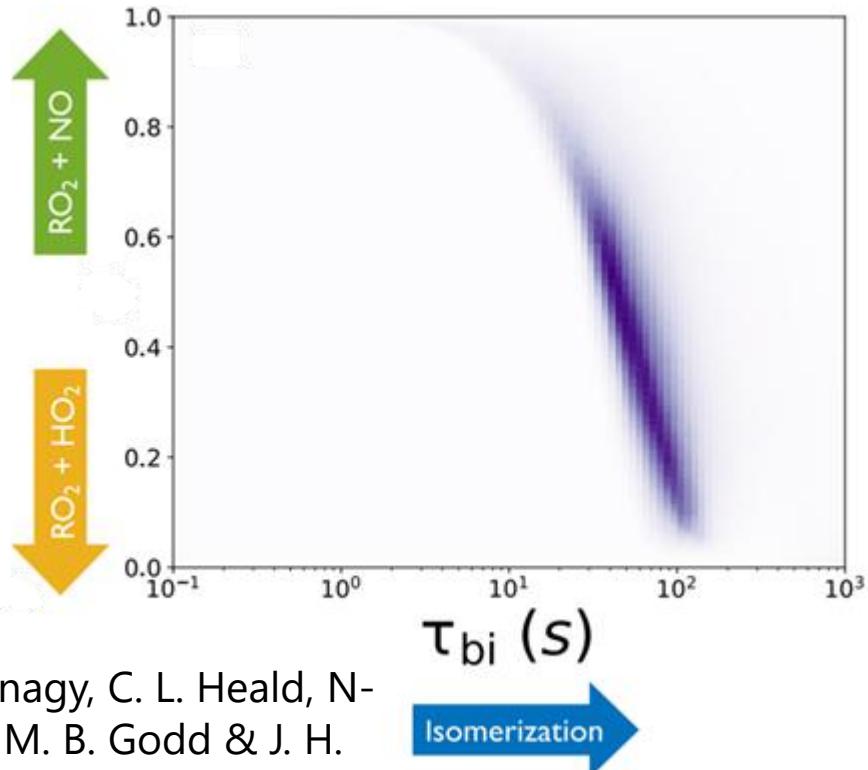
# Autoxidation: What and why?



$$k_r = \text{Fast}$$

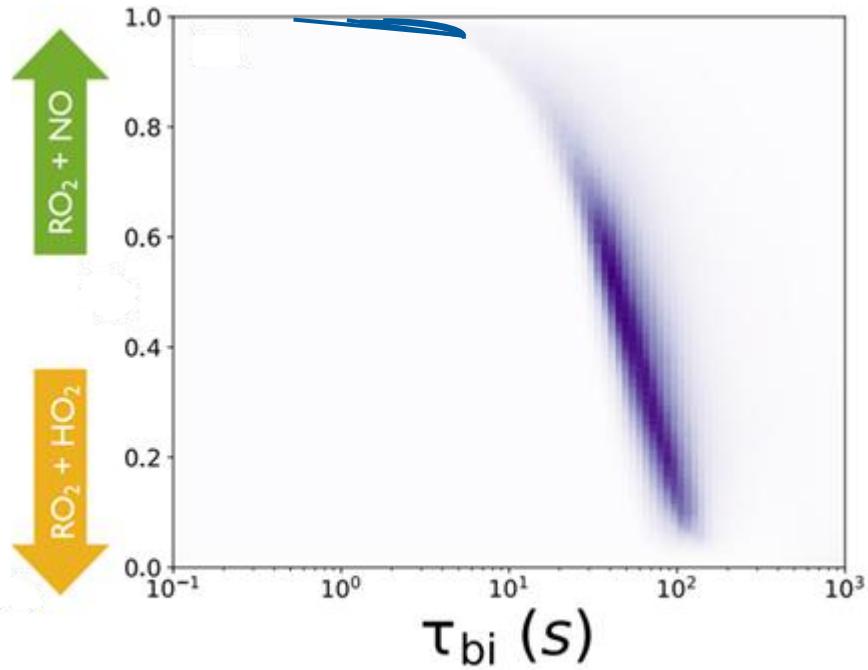
S. Iyer et al., *Nat. Comm.*  
2023, 14, 4984

# Autoxidation: Why is it hard to model?



H. S. Kenagy, C. L. Heald, N-Tahsini, M. B. Godd & J. H. Kroll, *Sci. Adv.* **2024**, 10, 37

# Autoxidation: Why is it hard to model?

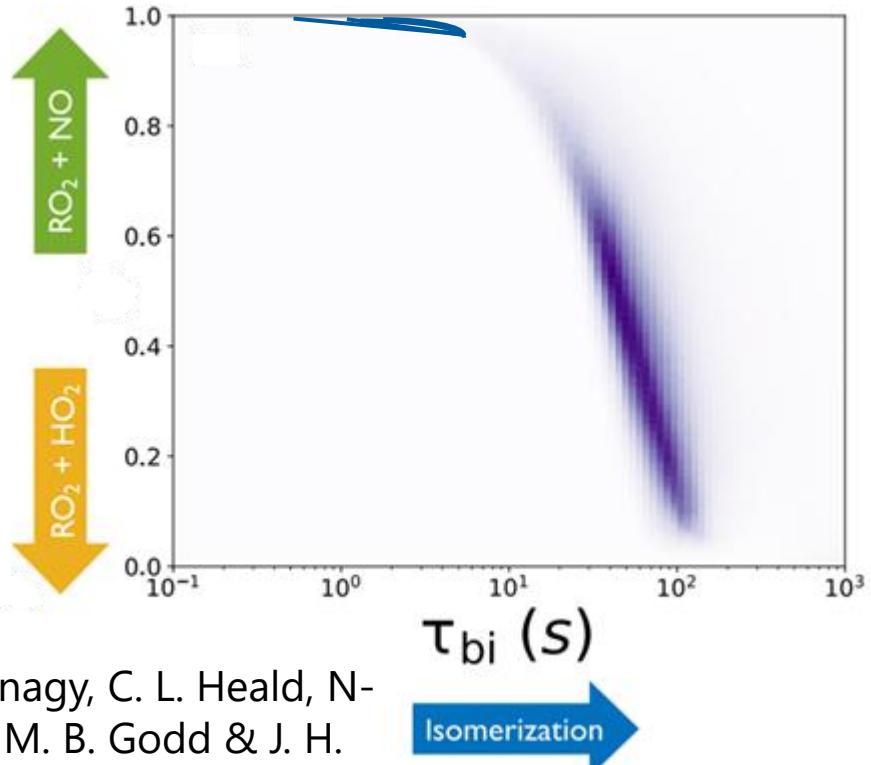


H. S. Kenagy, C. L. Heald, N-Tahsini, M. B. Godd & J. H. Kroll, *Sci. Adv.* **2024**, 10, 37

RO<sub>2</sub> bimolecular lifetimes range from 10<sup>2</sup> s to 10<sup>-2</sup> s.

Isomerization

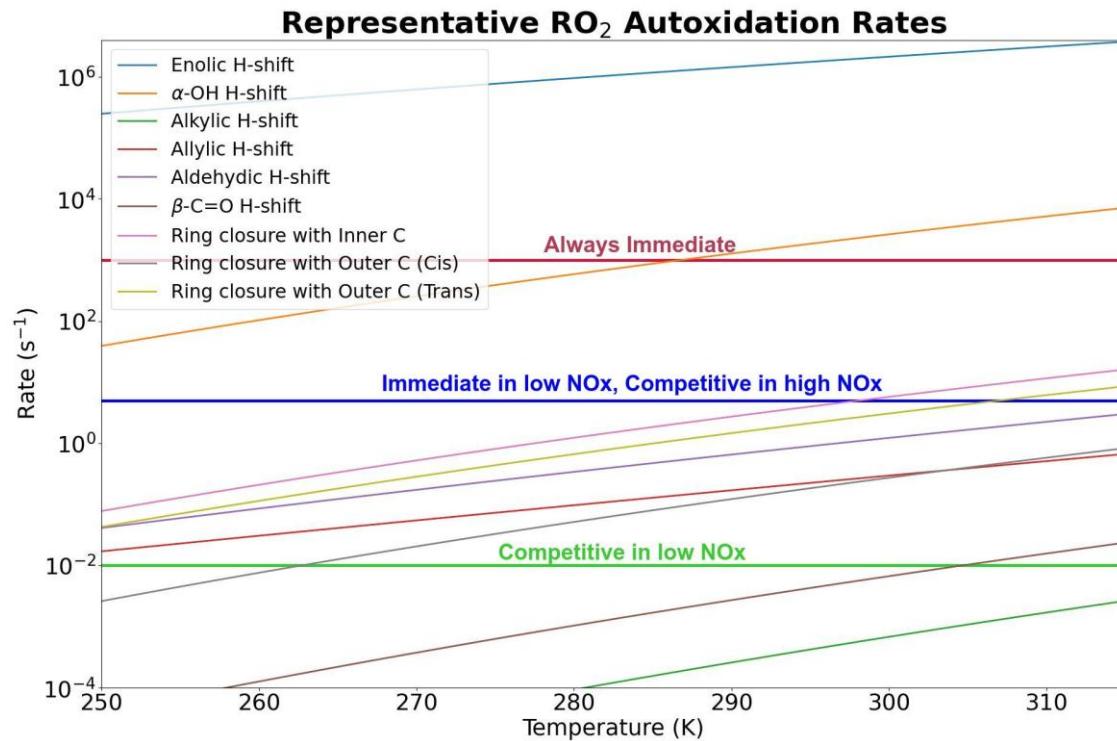
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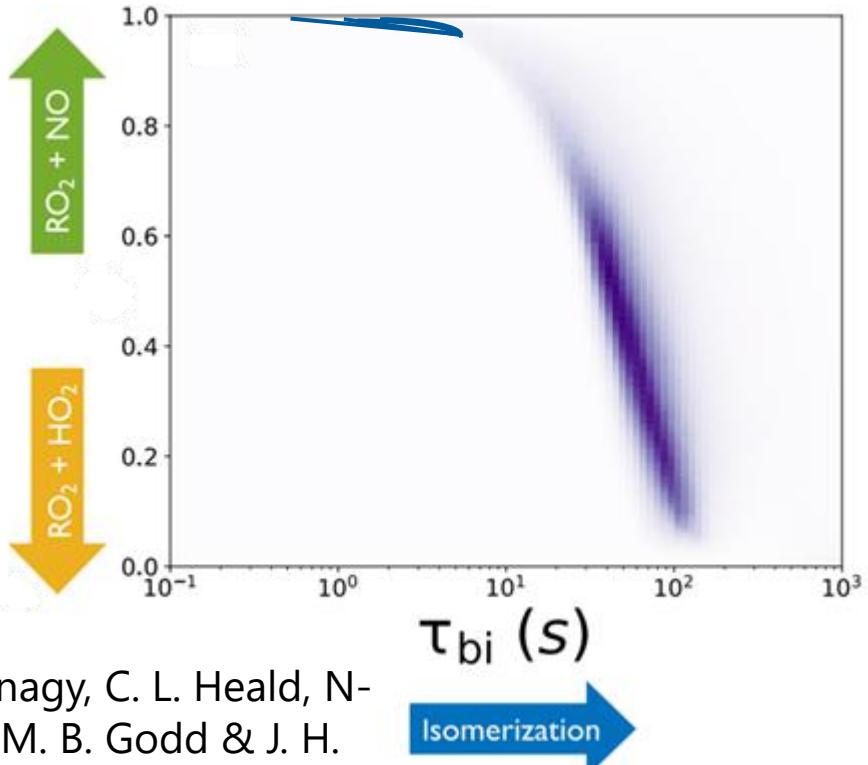
$RO_2$  bimolecular lifetimes range from  $10^2$  s to  $10^{-2}$  s.

Isomerization



Autoxidation rates vary even more...

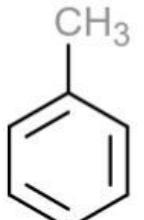
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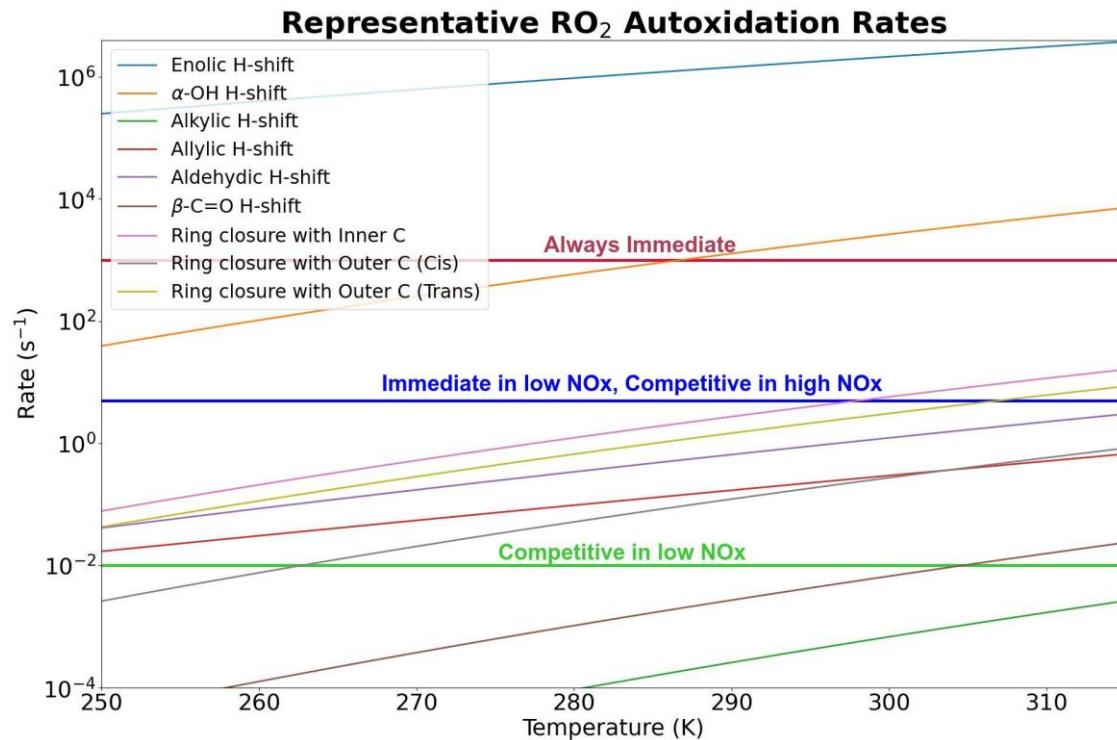
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$RO_2$  bimolecular lifetimes range from  $10^2$  s to  $10^{-2}$  s.

$10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ NO}, T = 300 \text{ K}$

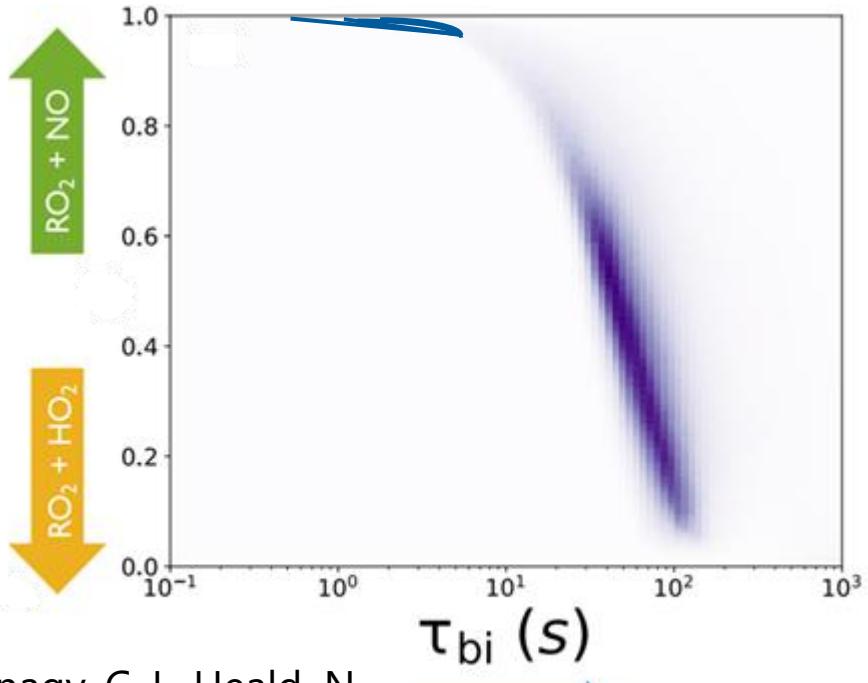


Use cases:



Autoxidation rates vary even more...

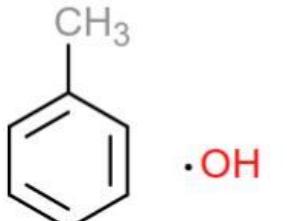
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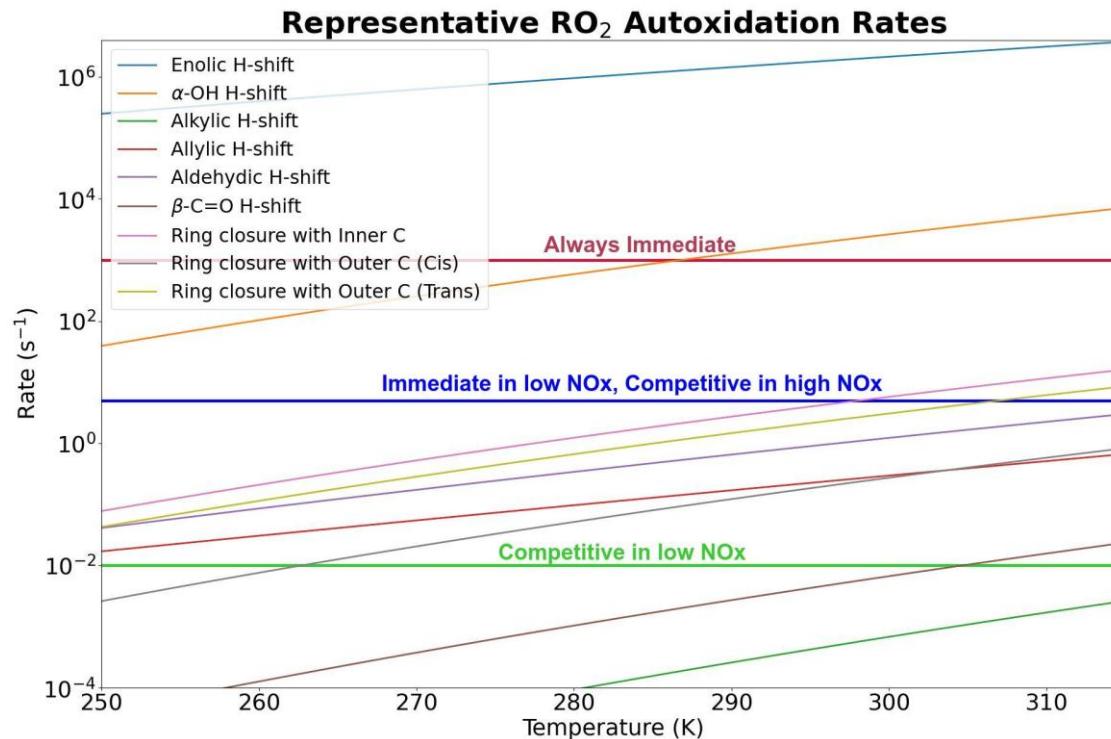
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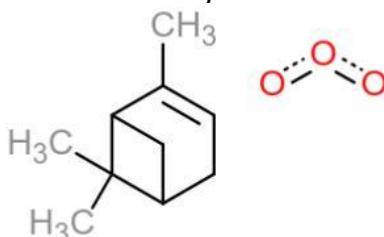


Use cases:

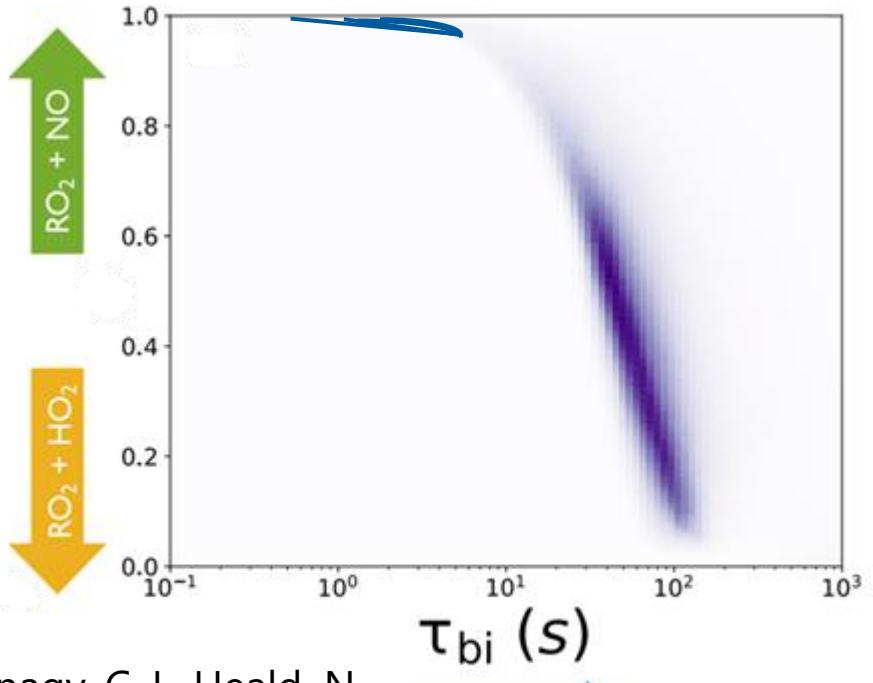


Autoxidation rates vary even more...

$10^9 \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ NO}, T = 280 \text{ K}$



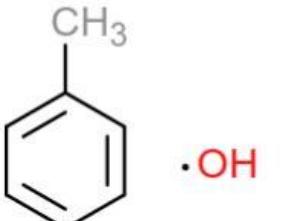
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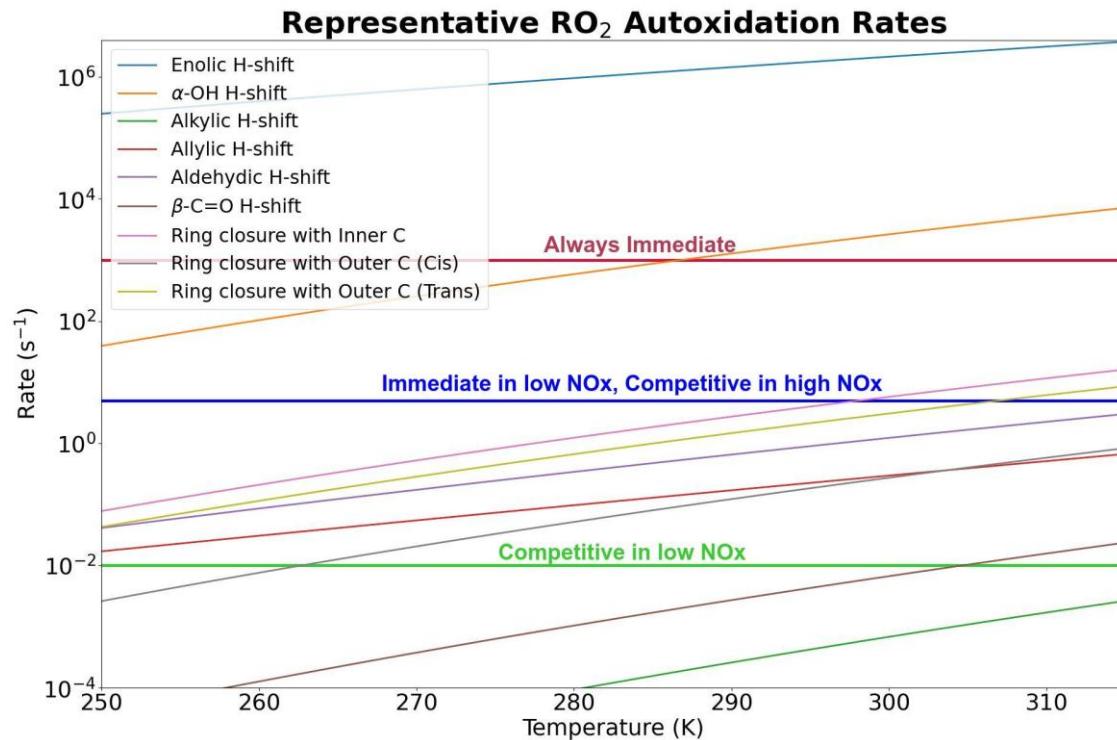
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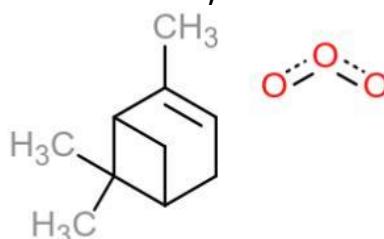


Use cases:

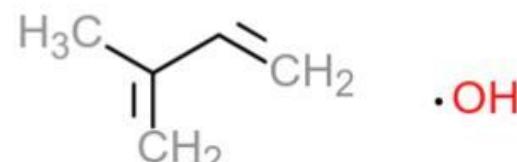


Autoxidation rates vary even more...

$10^9 \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ NO}, T = 280 \text{ K}$



$10^8 \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ NO}, T = 250 \text{ K}$



# **GECKO-A**

## **Generator for Explicit Chemistry and Kinetics of Organics in the Atmosphere**

# GECKO-A

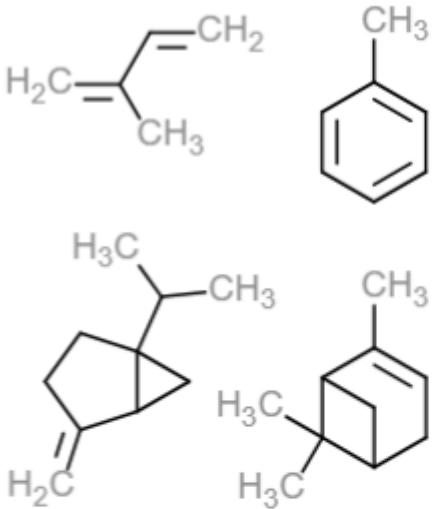
## Generator for Explicit Chemistry and Kinetics of Organics in the Atmosphere



B. Aumont, S. Szopa & S. Madronich  
*Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, **2005**, 5, 9, 2497–2517

# GECKO-A

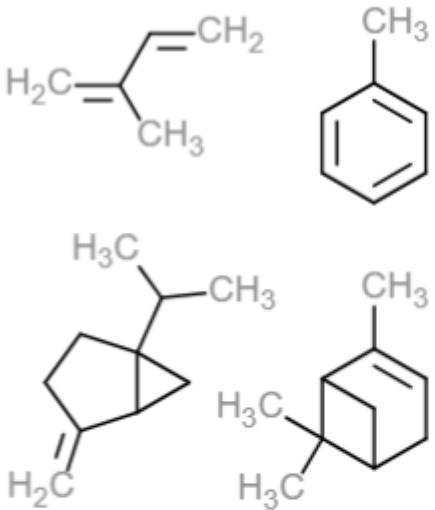
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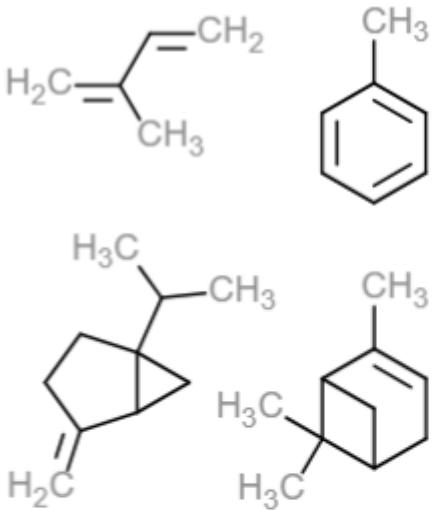


What would OH do?  
What would  $\text{NO}_3$  do?  
What would  $\text{O}_3$  do?  
What would  $h\nu$  do?

B. Aumont, S. Szopa & S. Madronich  
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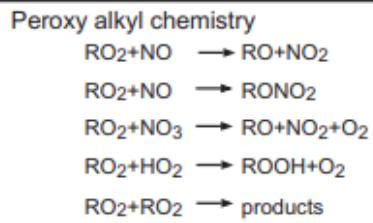


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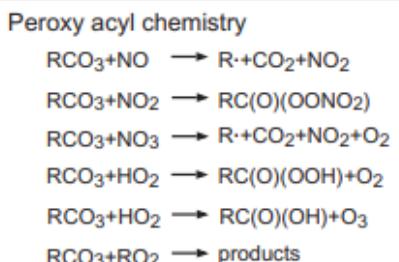
What would OH do?  
What would  $\text{NO}_3$  do?  
What would  $\text{O}_3$  do?  
What would  $h\nu$  do?

Radical ?

no



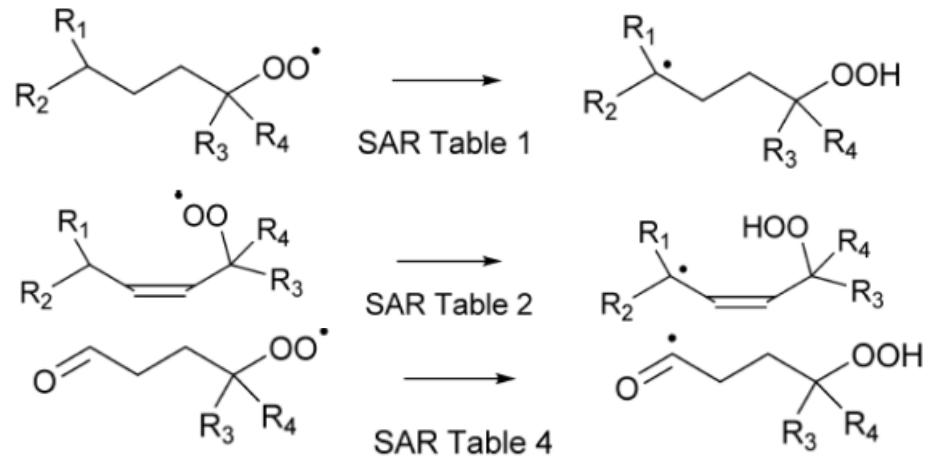
yes



# Which reactions?

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L. Vereecken & B. Nozière,  
*Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2020**, 20, 7429–7458

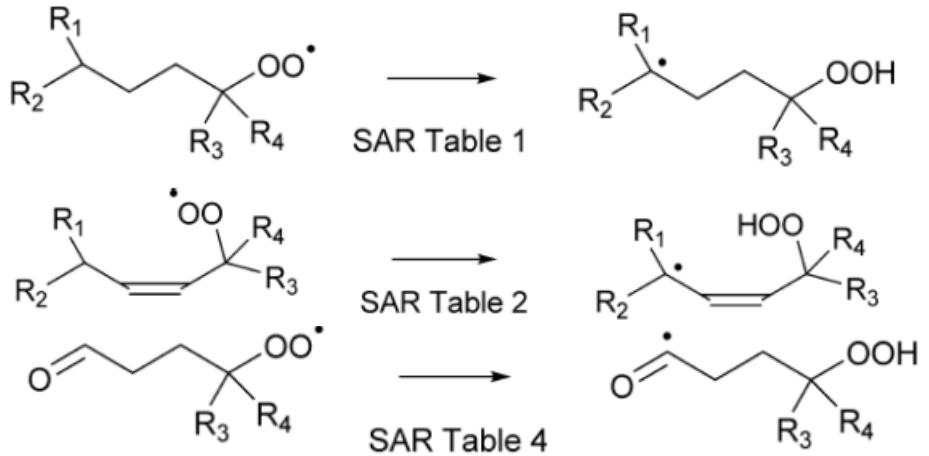


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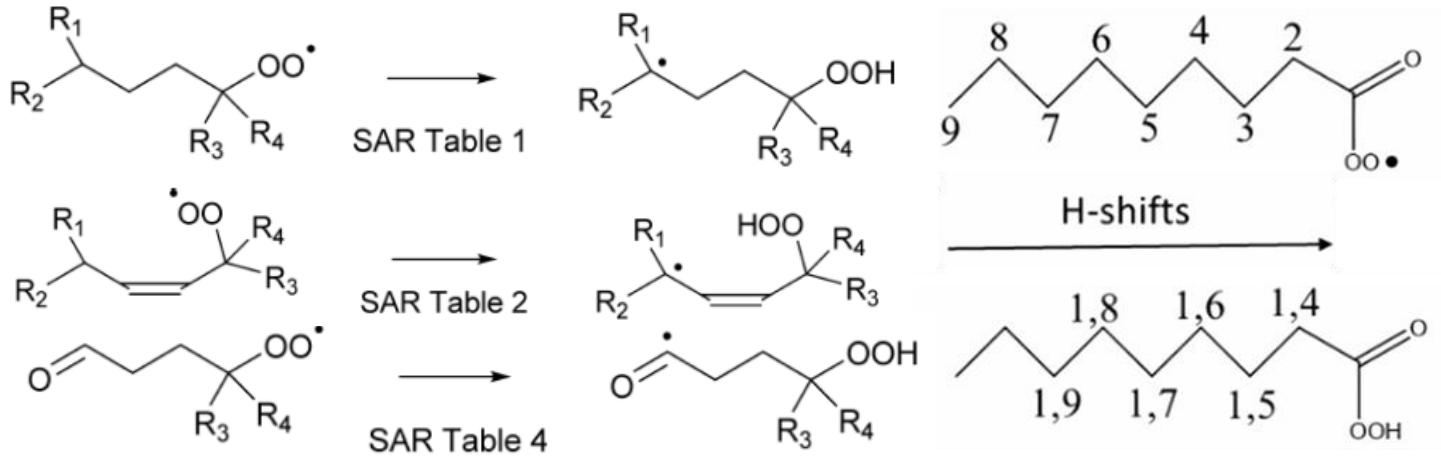
+ rumored update



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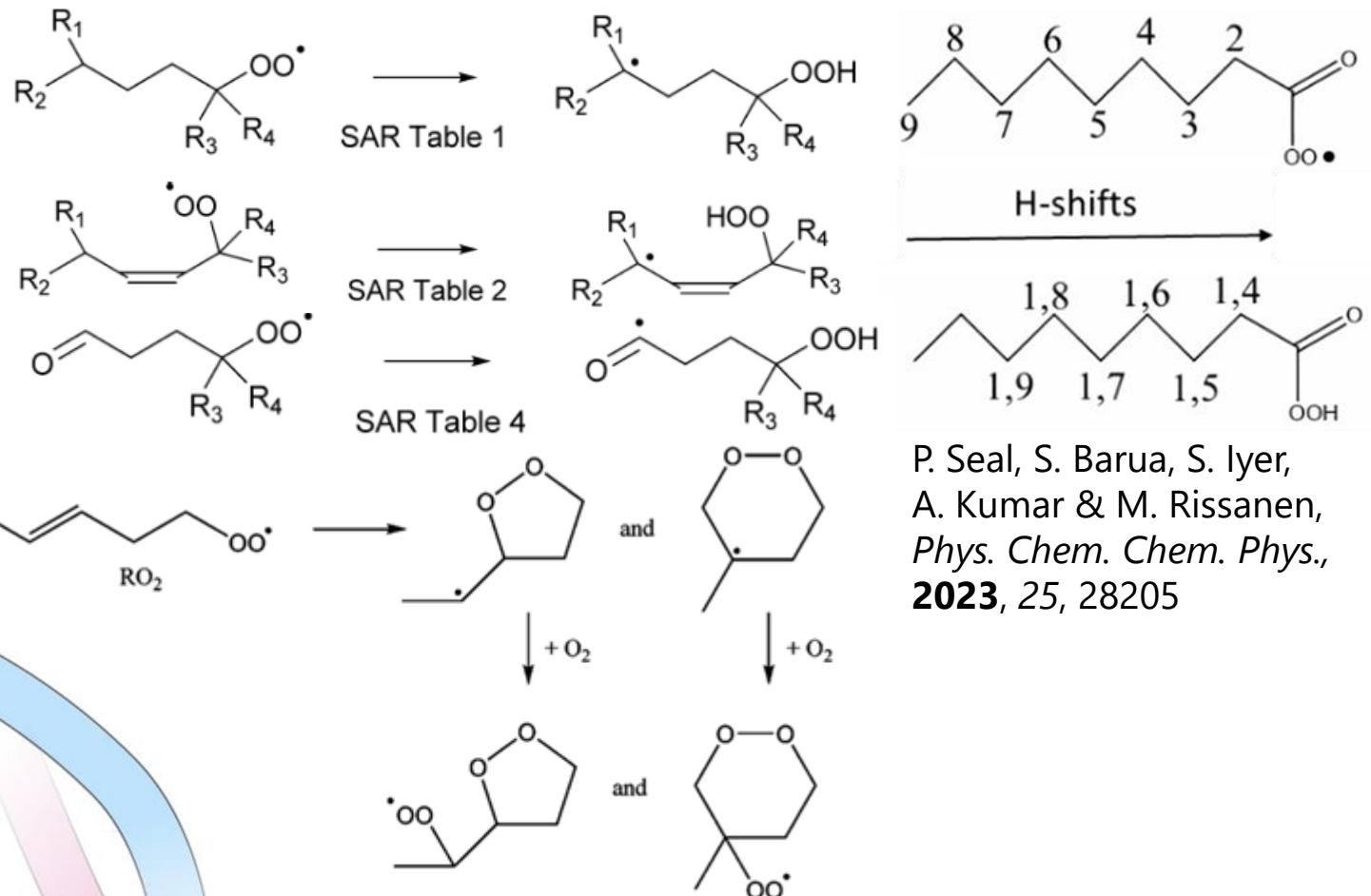


P. Seal, S. Barua, S. Iyer,  
A. Kumar & M. Rissanen,  
*Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*,  
**2023**, 25, 28205

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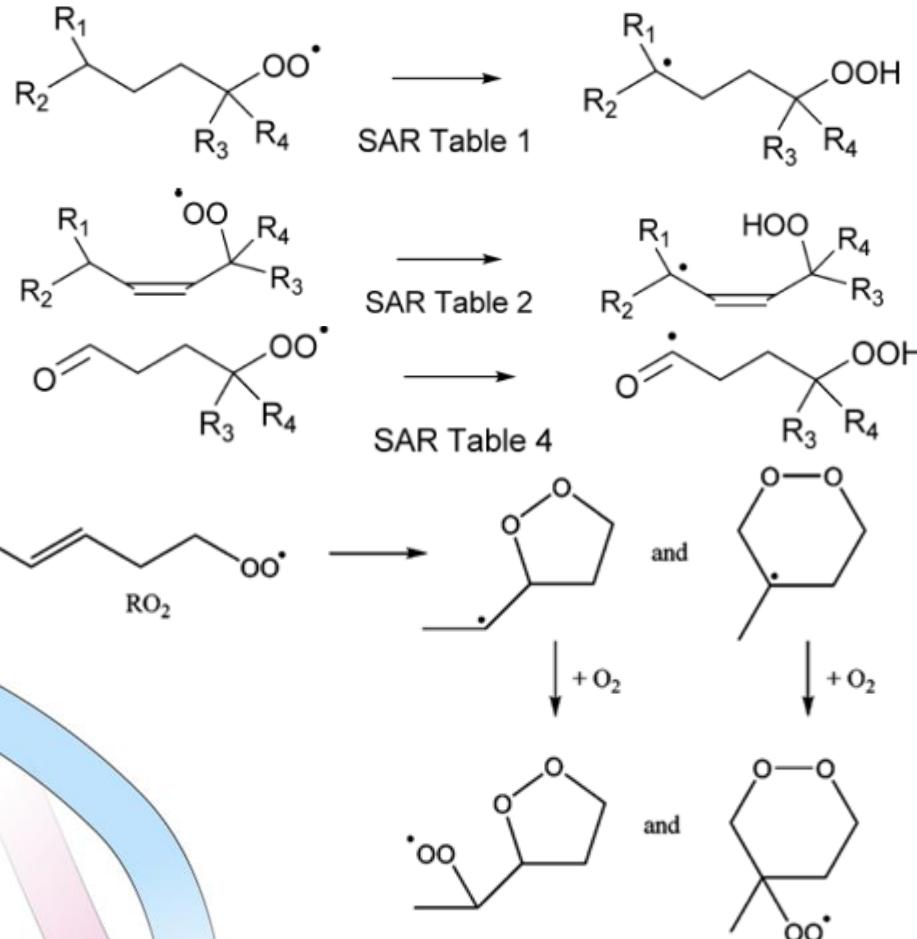
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& H. M. T. Nguyen, *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*  
**2021**, 23, 16564

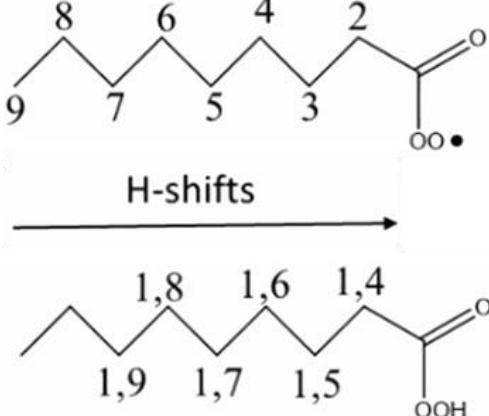
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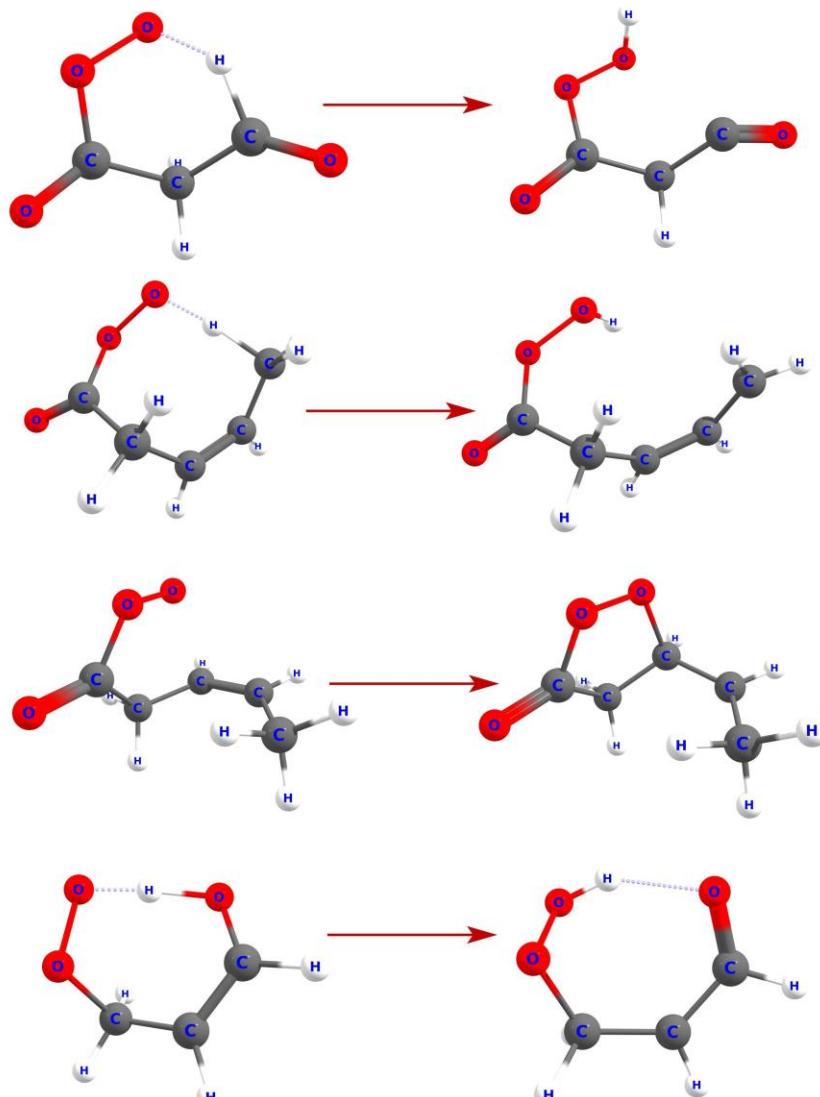
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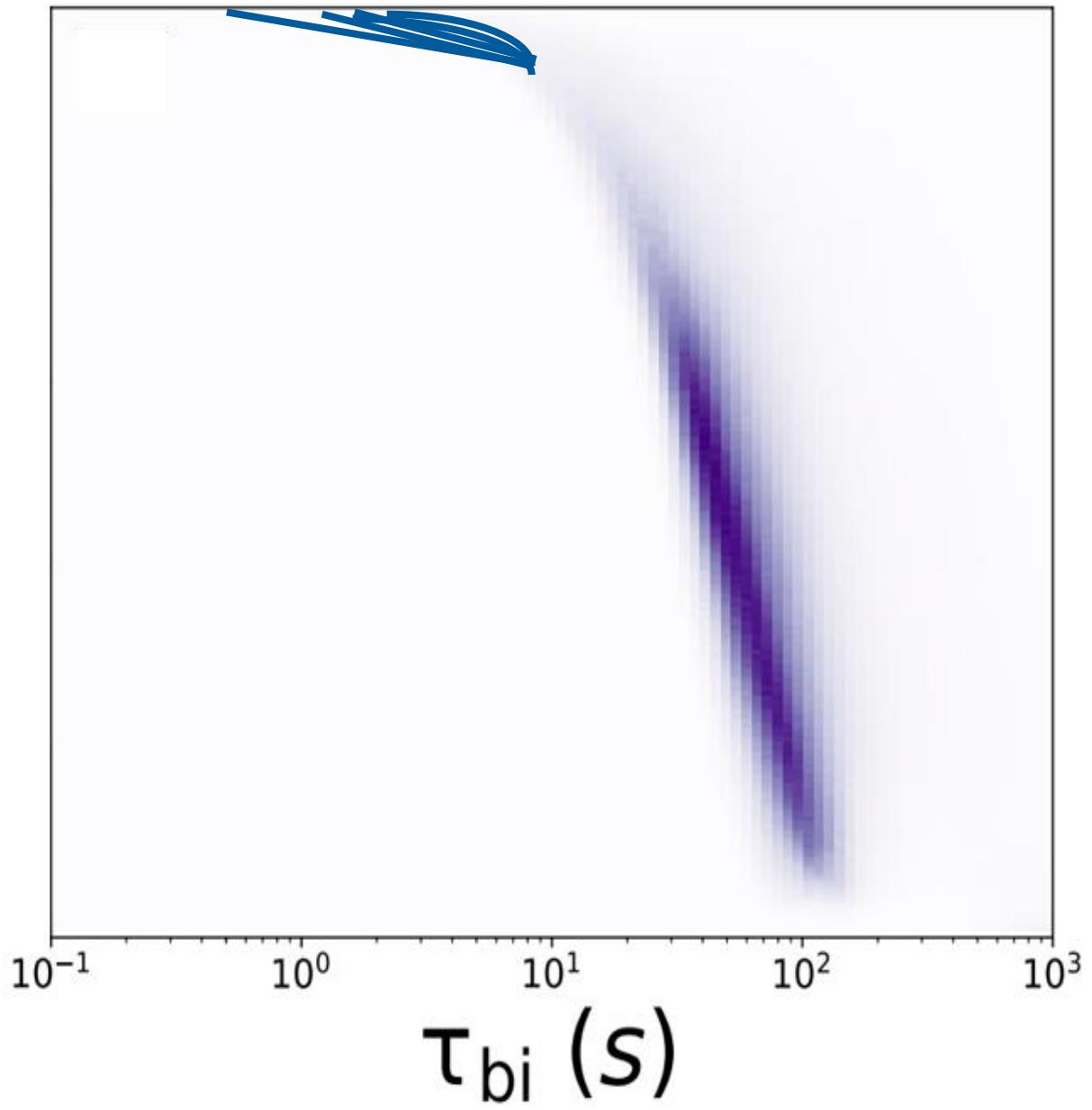


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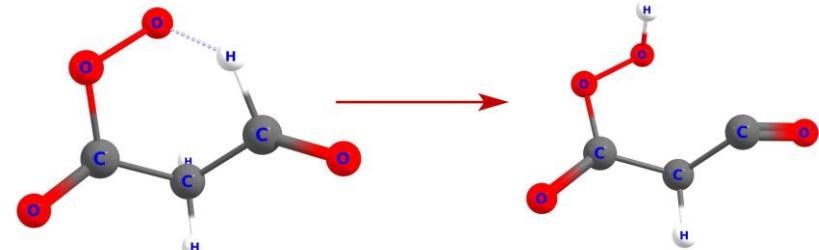
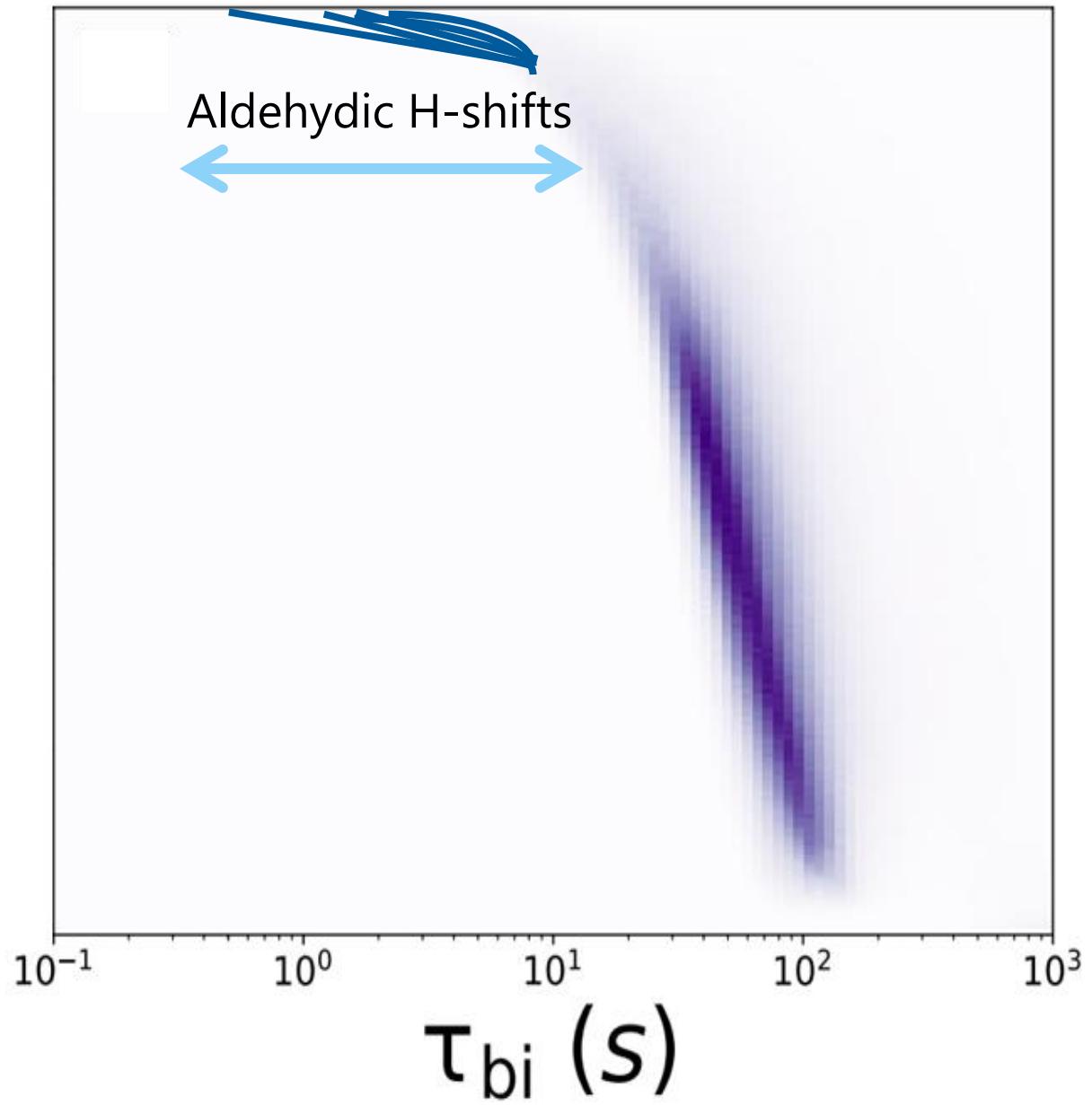


L. Franzon, A. Savolainen, S. Iyer, M. Rissanen & T. Kurtén  
*In Review* (Ask me later about the methods, theorists) <sup>20</sup>

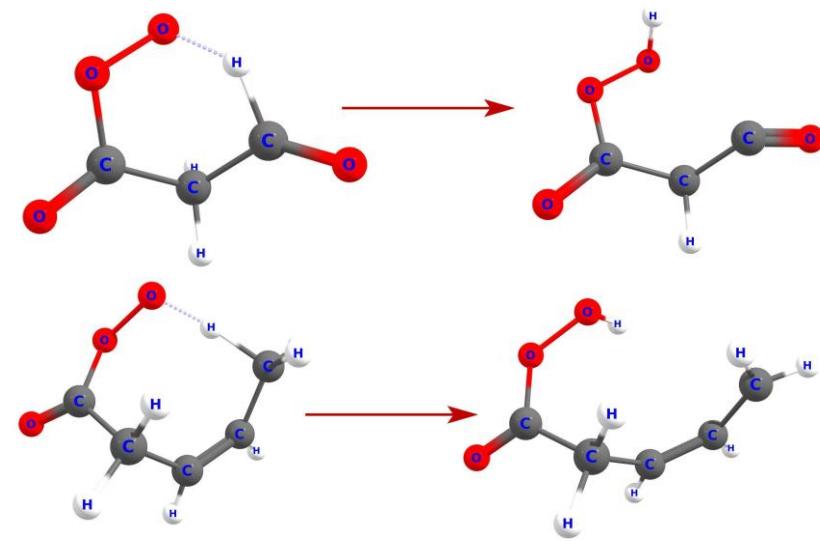
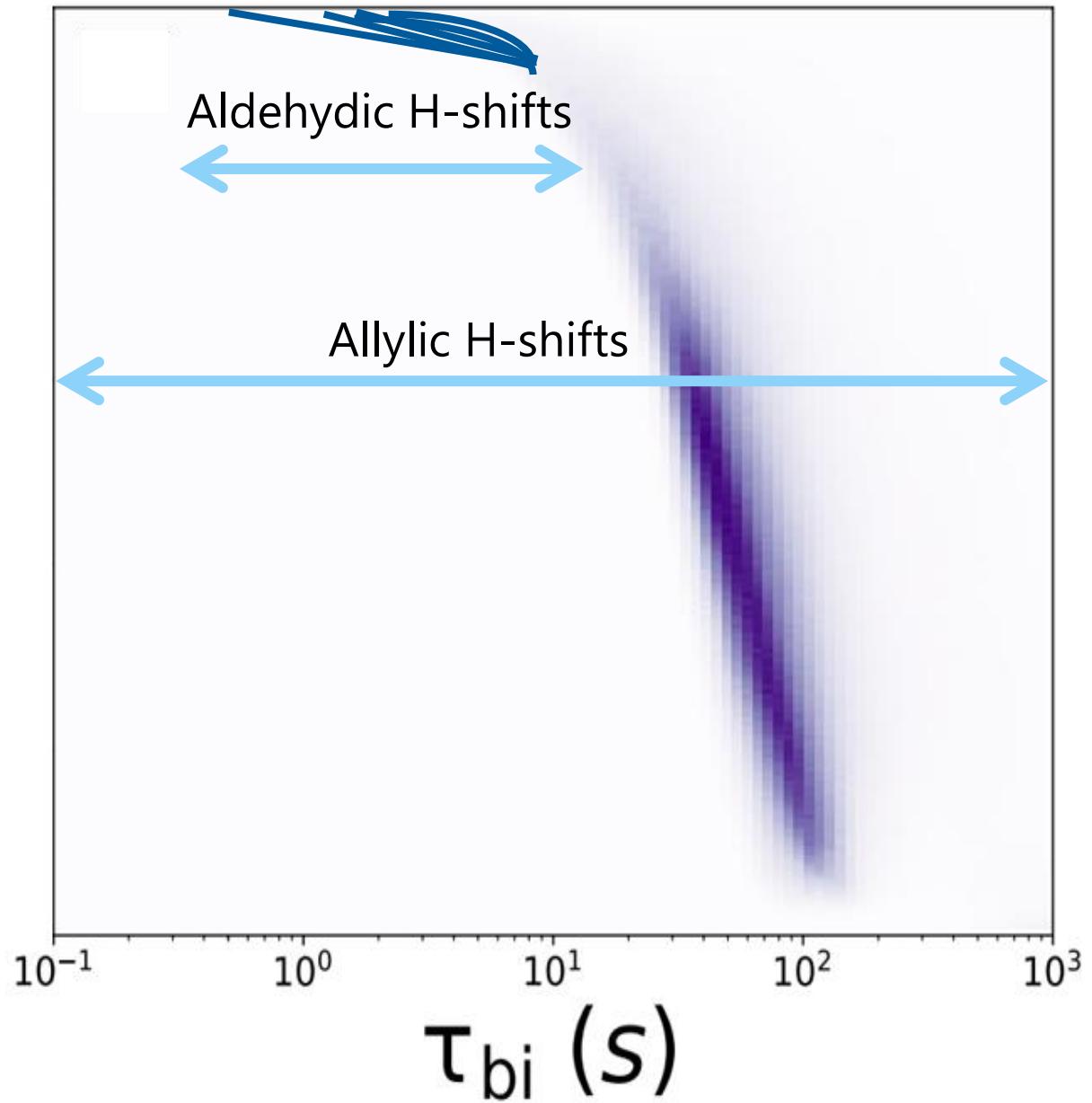
# New data on $\text{RC(O)O}_2$ autoxidation



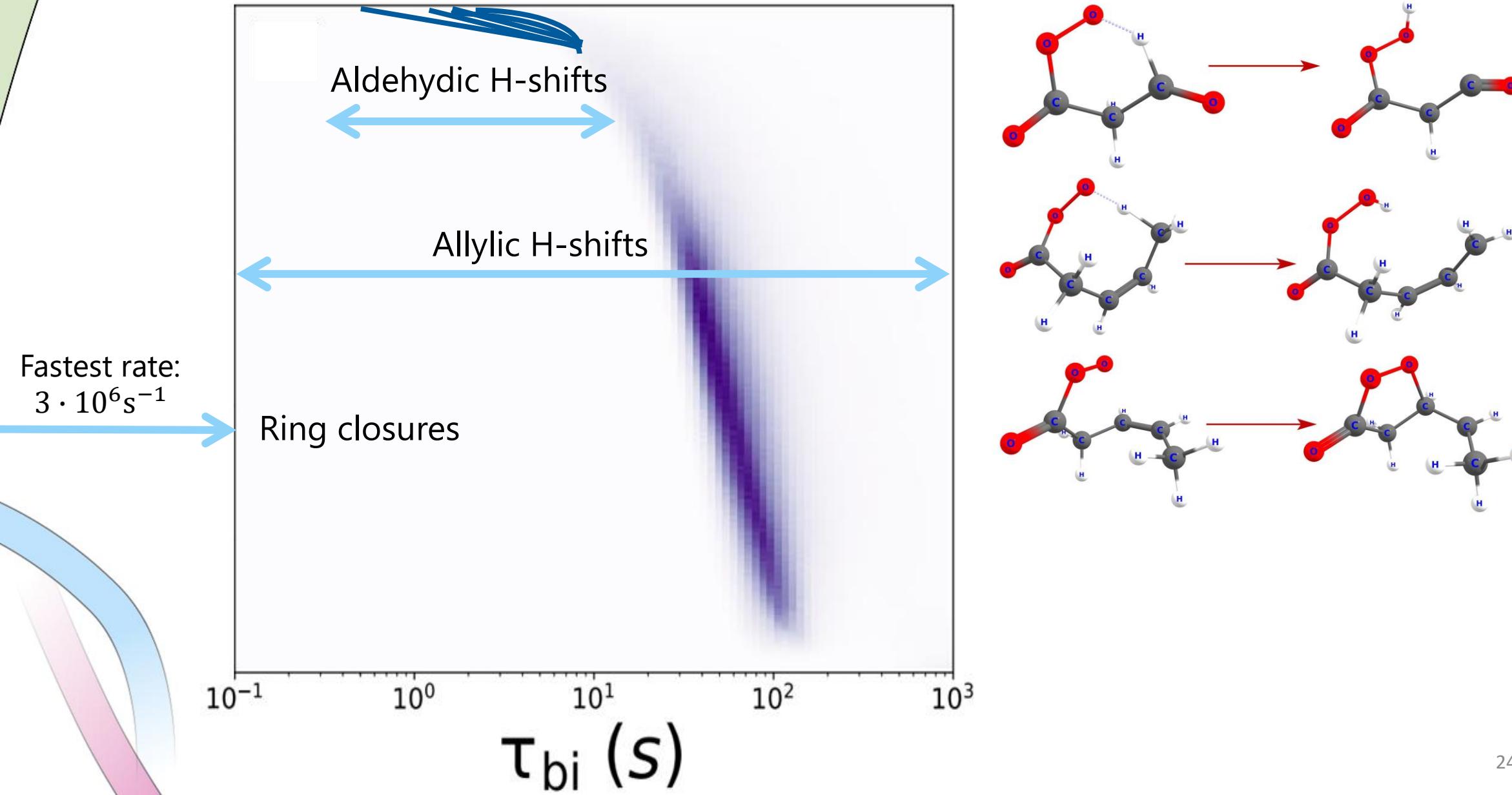
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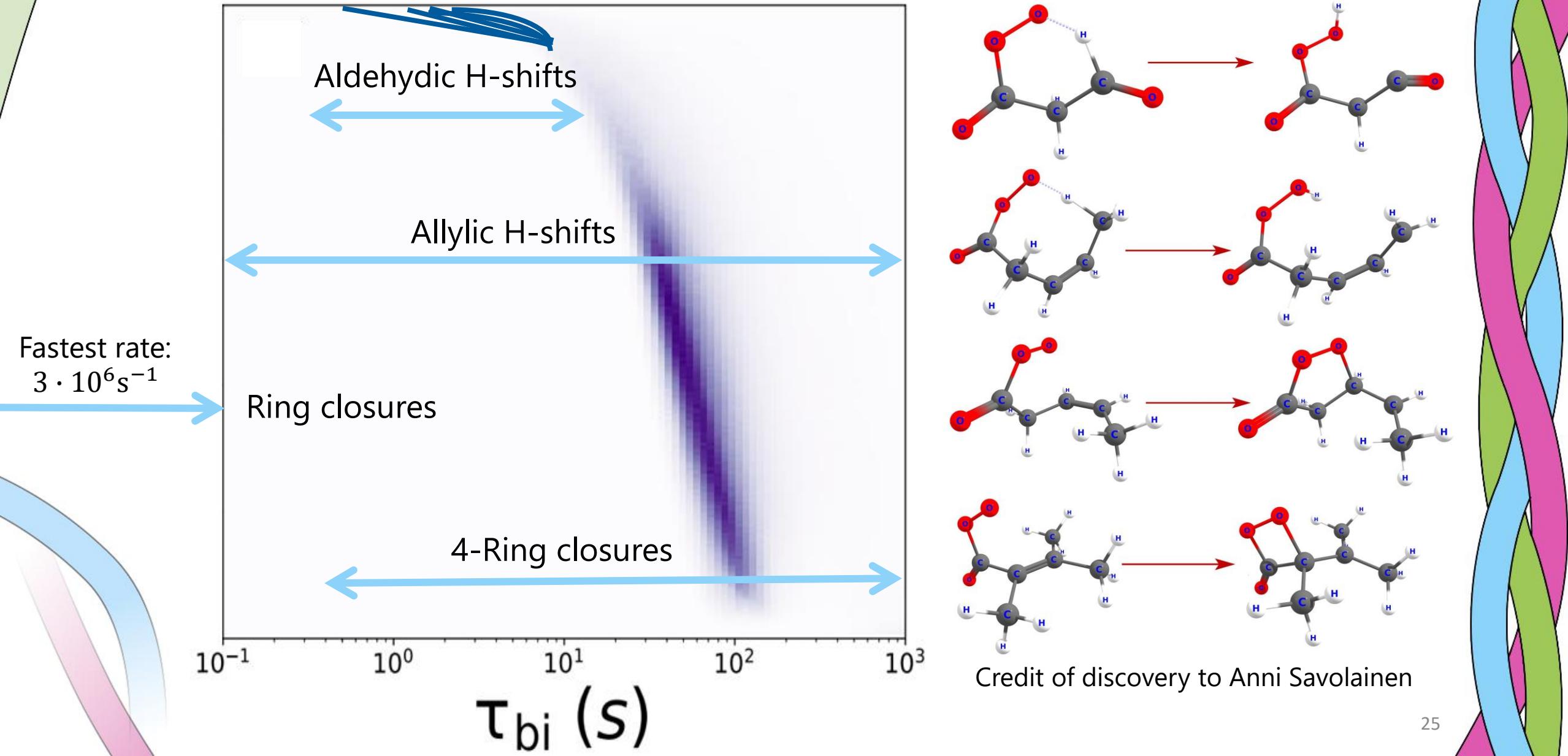
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# Autoxidation in mechanism generation



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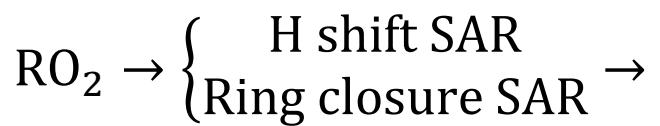


$\text{RO}_2 \rightarrow \begin{cases} \text{H shift SAR} \\ \text{Ring closure SAR} \end{cases} \rightarrow$

$$k_{tot}(T) = \sum_h^{n_h} k_h(T) + \sum_r^{n_r} k_r(T)$$

(H-scrambling not included in sum)

# Autoxidation in mechanism generation

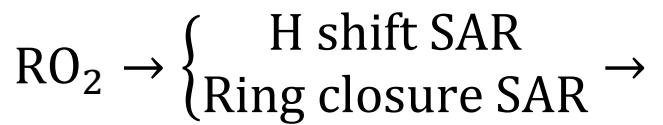


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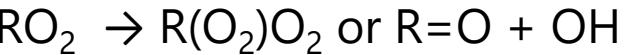
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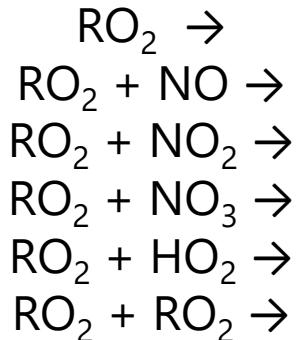
(H-scrambling not included in sum)

$k_{tot}(T) > k_{high}$  Only unimolecular reactions



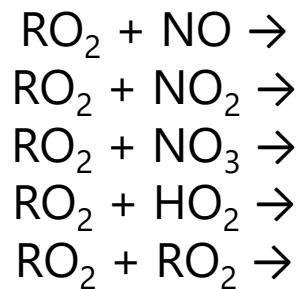
$$\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ k_{high} \\ \downarrow \end{array}$$

$k_{low} < k_{tot}(T) < k_{high}$   
Both uni- and bimolecular reactions

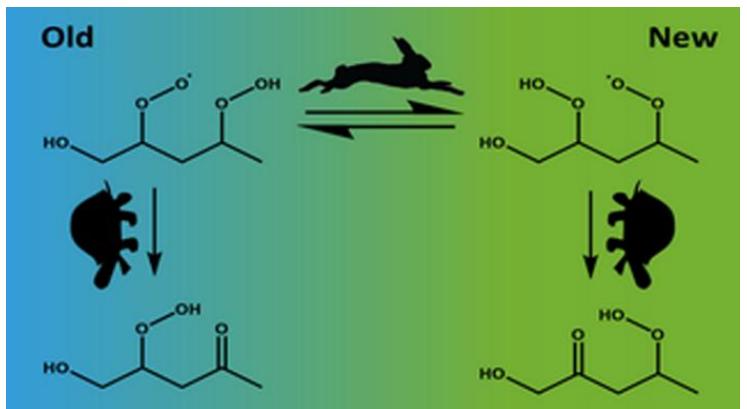


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$k_{tot}(T) < k_{low}$   
Only bimolecular reactions

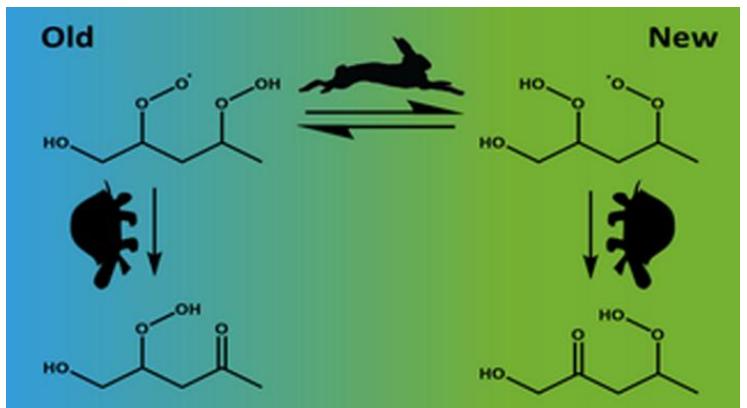


# H-scrambling in mechanism generation



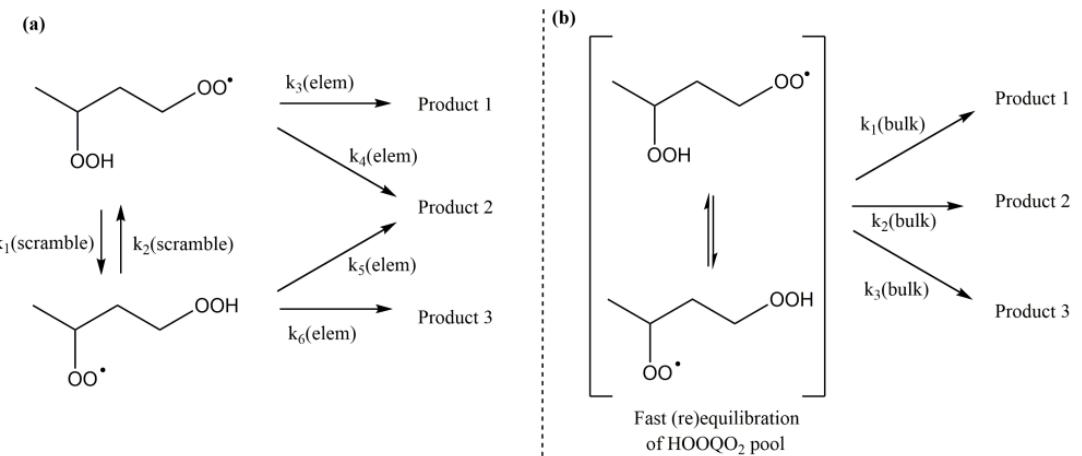
S. Jørgensen, H. Knap, R. Otkjær, A. Jensen, M. Kjeldsen, P. Wennberg & H. Kjaergaard,  
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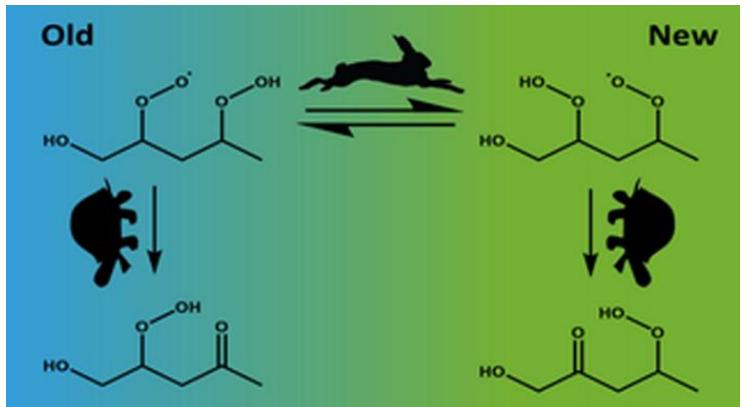


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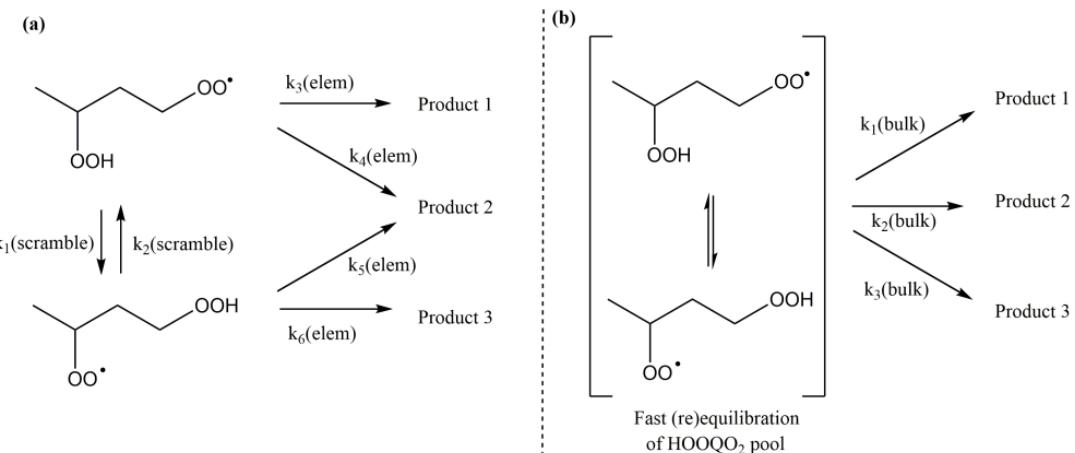
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$R(OOH)O_2 \rightarrow$  Find all  $n_{OOH} + 1$  scrambling isomers

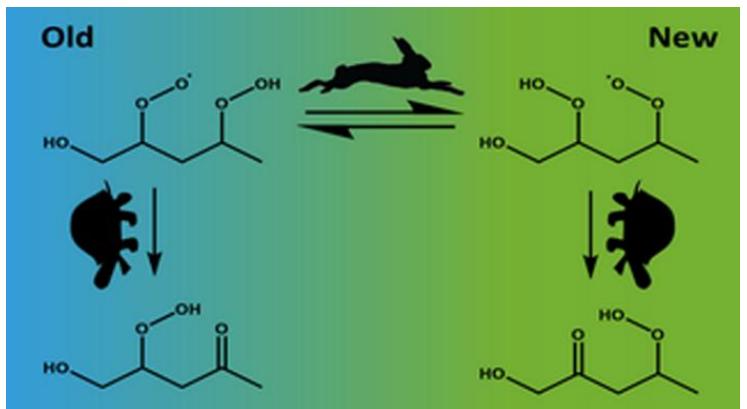
All  $R(OOH)O_2 \rightarrow \begin{cases} \text{H shift SAR} \\ \text{Ring closure SAR} \end{cases} \rightarrow$

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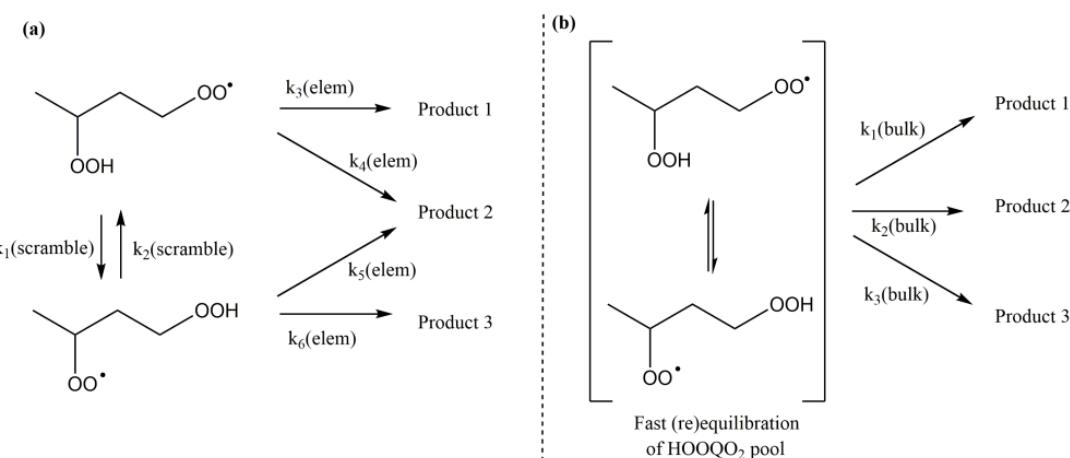
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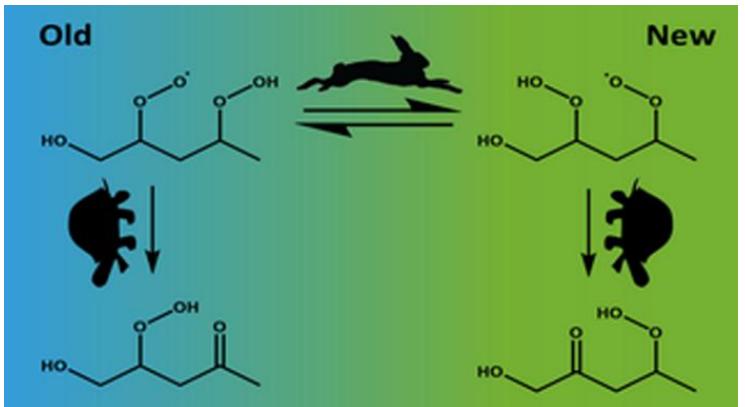
$$k_{tot}(T) = \left\langle \sum_h^{n_h} k_h(T) + \sum_r^{n_r} k_r(T) \right\rangle$$

Exception 1:  $R(OOH)C(O)O_2 \rightarrow R(O_2)C(O)OOH$  is immediate and **irreversible**.

H. Knap & S. Jørgensen, *J. Phys. Chem. A*, **2017**, 121, 1470–1479

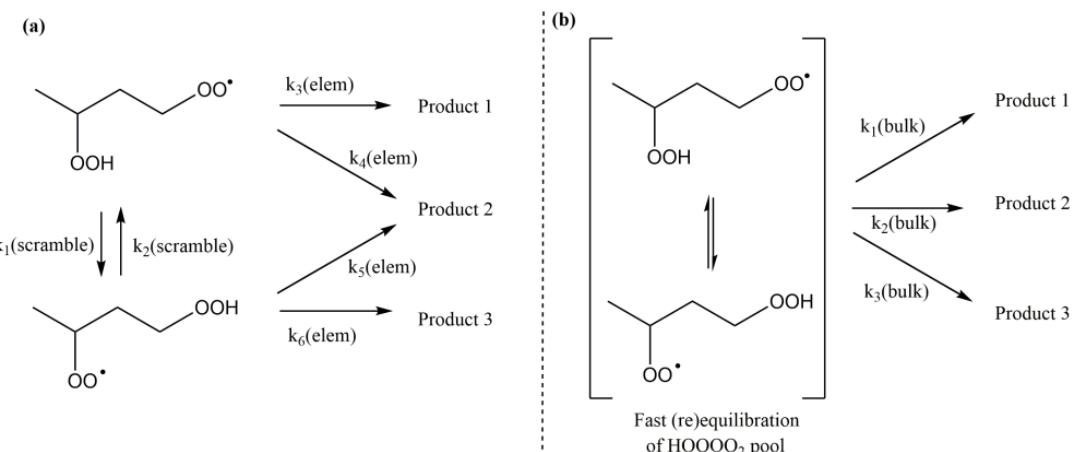


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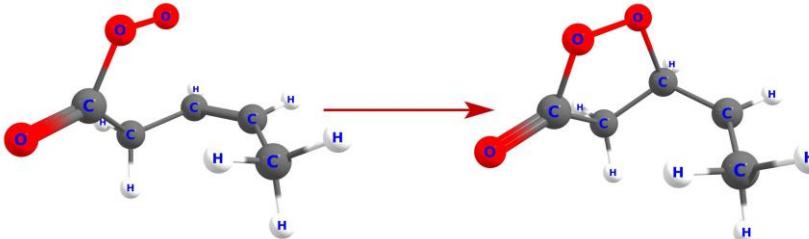
$\text{R(OOH)}\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{Find all } n_{\text{OOH}} + 1 \text{ scrambling isomers}$

All  $\text{R(OOH)}\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{H shift SAR} \\ \text{Ring closure SAR} \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow$

$$k_{tot}(T) = \left\langle \sum_h^{n_h} k_h(T) + \sum_r^{n_r} k_r(T) \right\rangle$$

Exception 1:  $\text{R(OOH)C(O)O}_2 \rightarrow \text{R(O}_2\text{)C(O)OOH}$  is immediate and **irreversible**.

H. Knap & S. Jørgensen, *J. Phys. Chem. A*, **2017**, 121, 1470–1479



Exception 2:  $\text{RC(O)O}_2$  ring closures outcompete H-scrambling.

L. Franzon, A. Savolainen, S. Iyer, M. Rissanen & T. Kurtén  
*In Review*

# Final thoughts

- We aim to make GECKO-A's the most complete and up-to-date representation of atmospheric autoxidation available.



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- We aim to make GECKO-A's the most complete and up-to-date representation of atmospheric autoxidation available.
- GECKO-A mechanisms are large, but they can be used to benchmark the accuracy of smaller mechanisms.
- The code is open source (currently without autoxidation):
- <https://gitlab.in2p3.fr/ipsl/lisa/geckoA/public>



# Final thoughts

- We aim to make GECKO-A's the most complete and up-to-date representation of atmospheric autoxidation available.
- GECKO-A mechanisms are large, but they can be used to benchmark the accuracy of smaller mechanisms.
- The code is open source (currently without autoxidation):
- <https://gitlab.in2p3.fr/ipsl/lisa/geckoA/public>



Thank you for listening! Questions?



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