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## Precursors and formation of secondary organic aerosols from wildfires in the Euro-Mediterranean region

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**Abstract.** This work aims at quantifying the relative contribution of secondary organic aerosol (SOA) precursors emitted by wildfires to organic aerosol (OA) formation during summer of 2007 over the Euro-Mediterranean region, where intense wildfires occurred. A new SOA formation mechanism,  $H^2O_{\text{aro}}$ , including recently identified aromatic volatile organic compounds (VOCs) emitted from wildfires, is developed based on smog chamber experiment measurements under low- and high- $\text{NO}_x$  regimes. The aromatic VOCs included in the mechanism are toluene, xylene, benzene, phenol, cresol, catechol, furan, naphthalene, methylnaphthalene, syringol, guaiacol, and structurally assigned and unassigned compounds with at least six carbon atoms per molecule ( $\text{USC}>6$ ). This mechanism  $H^2O_{\text{aro}}$  is an extension of the  $H^2O$  (hydrophilic–hydrophobic organic) aerosol mechanism: the oxidation of the precursor forms surrogate species with specific thermodynamic properties (volatility, oxidation degree and affinity to water). The SOA concentrations over the Euro-Mediterranean region in summer of 2007 are simulated using the chemistry transport model (CTM) Polair3D of the air-quality platform Polyphemus, where the mechanism  $H^2O_{\text{aro}}$  was implemented. To estimate the relative contribution of the aromatic VOCs, intermediate volatility, semi-volatile and low-volatility organic compounds (I/S/L-VOCs), to wildfires OA concentrations, different estimations of the gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions (from primary organic aerosol – POA – using a factor of 1.5 or from non-methanic organic gas – NMOG – using a factor of 0.36) and their ageing

(one-step oxidation vs. multi-generational oxidation) are also tested in the CTM.

Most of the particle OA concentrations are formed from I/S/L-VOCs. On average during the summer of 2007 and over the Euro-Mediterranean domain, they are about 10 times higher than the OA concentrations formed from VOCs. However, locally, the OA concentrations formed from VOCs can represent up to 30 % of the OA concentrations from biomass burning. Amongst the VOCs, the main contributors to SOA formation are phenol, benzene and catechol (CAT; 47 %);  $\text{USC}>6$  compounds (23 %); and toluene and xylene (12 %). Sensitivity studies of the influence of the VOCs and the I/S/L-VOC emissions and chemical ageing mechanisms on  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations show that surface  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations are more sensitive to the parameterization used for gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions than for ageing.

Estimating the gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions from POA or from NMOG has a high impact on local surface  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations (reaching –30 % in the Balkans, –8 % to –16 % in the fire plume and +8 % to +16 % in Greece). Considering the VOC as SOA precursors results in a moderate increase in  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations mainly in the Balkans (up to 24 %) and in the fire plume (+10 %).

## 1 Introduction

Atmospheric particulate matter (PM) has a strong impact on human health (Pope et al., 2002; Naeher et al., 2006; Johnston et al., 2012), climate (Pilinis et al., 1995; Bond et al., 2013) and visibility (Eldering and Cass, 1996; Hand et al., 2007). Chemistry transport models (CTMs) play an important role in simulating the formation of these particles and their concentrations. PM is composed of different compounds, namely organic and inorganic compounds, dust, and black carbon (Jimenez et al., 2009).

Organic aerosols (OA) are classified either as primary organic aerosols (POA) or as secondary organic aerosols (SOA). POA are directly emitted into the atmosphere, whereas SOA are formed by gas–particle conversion of oxidation products of precursors. OA can be classified based on their saturation concentrations ( $C^*$ ): volatile organic compounds (VOCs; with  $C^* > 10^6 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), intermediate volatility organic compounds (I-VOCs; with  $10^4 < C^* < 10^6 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), semi-volatile organic compounds (S-VOCs; with  $0.1 < C^* < 10^4 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) and low-volatility organic compounds (L-VOCs; with  $C^* < 0.1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ; Lipsky and Robinson, 2006; Grieshop et al., 2009). Both SOA and POA may be composed of components of different volatilities such as S-VOCs and L-VOCs, which may partition between the gas and particle phases (Robinson et al., 2007). Depending on the ambient concentrations, some components only exist in the gas phase (e.g., I-VOCs). In the following,  $\text{OA}_{\text{tot}}$  denotes the sum of gaseous and particle-phase organic aerosol concentrations with volatility lower than VOCs.

$\text{POA}_{\text{tot}}$  originates mostly from anthropogenic (e.g., traffic and industry) sources and from biomass burning, which is considered to be one of the major sources of PM (Bian et al., 2017), with contributions from both anthropogenic (e.g., residential heating) as well as natural sources such as wildfires.

Wildfires are one of the largest sources of primary carbonaceous aerosols globally. They are also an important source of trace gases including organic vapors, which themselves can serve as precursors of SOA (Akagi et al., 2011; Stockwell et al., 2015). SOA from wildfires may contribute significantly to organic aerosol loading in the atmosphere (Konovalov et al., 2015). However, the concentration of SOA is highly uncertain because of the complexities of physical and chemical evolution of wildfire plumes (Bian et al., 2017). Although several modeling studies have examined SOA formation from VOCs released from biomass burning (Marson et al., 2006; Alvarado and Prinn, 2009; Alvarado et al., 2015), the compounds that act as precursors of SOA are still not well understood. Considering only traditional SOA precursors (mainly toluene, xylene, benzene and naphthalene; Appel et al., 2017) in SOA models leads to a substantial underestimation of SOA concentrations (Dawson et al., 2016; Bian et al., 2017). This can probably partly be explained by the limited knowledge about SOA precursors. Recently, aromatic VOCs (namely toluene, xylene, benzene,

phenol, cresol, catechol, furan, guaiacol, syringol, naphthalene and methyl-naphthalene) were identified as the major SOA precursors emitted by biomass burning (Akagi et al., 2011; Stockwell et al., 2015; Bruns et al., 2016). To develop mechanisms of SOA formation from these aromatic compounds, many laboratory studies have investigated the gas-phase oxidation of VOCs (mainly initiated by reactions with a hydroxyl radical – OH; Calvert et al., 2002; Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Chhabra et al., 2011; Nakao et al., 2011; Yee et al., 2013), and SOA yields have been measured under various conditions (Odum et al., 1996; Ng et al., 2007): a low- $\text{NO}_x$  regime where the concentrations of  $\text{NO}_x$  are low and the production of ozone and oxidants is mainly governed by the  $\text{NO}_x$  levels and a high- $\text{NO}_x$  regime where the production of ozone and oxidants is controlled by the VOC levels (Sillman et al., 1990; Kleinman, 1994). Odum et al. (1996) model SOA formation by a gas–particle partitioning absorption scheme (Pankow, 1994) using data from smog chamber experiments. In CTMs, the SOA formation may be represented using different approaches mostly based on data from smog chamber experiments: the two-lumped-product approach, which uses an empirical representation of SOA formation (Odum et al., 1996; Schell et al., 2001), the molecular or surrogate approach (Pun et al., 2006; Bessagnet et al., 2008; Carlton et al., 2010; Couvidat et al., 2012; Chrit et al., 2017), which represents the formation of SOA using surrogate molecules with associated physico-chemical properties, and the volatility basis set (VBS) approach (Donahue et al., 2006) in which surrogates are associated to classes of different volatilities. The ageing (oxidation by OH) of each surrogate may lead to the formation of surrogates of lower volatility classes through the competition of two processes: fragmentation and functionalization. Fragmentation corresponds to the cleavage of C–C bonds, and it leads to oxidation products of a lower carbon number and higher volatility than the precursor. Functionalization corresponds to the addition of oxygen-containing functional groups, and it leads to oxidation products of a higher oxygen number.

SOA formation mechanisms may rely not only on smog chamber experiments but also on explicit chemical mechanisms when experimental data are not available. Examples of such mechanisms are the master chemical mechanisms (MCMs; Saunders et al., 1997) or the generator for explicit chemistry and kinetics of organics in the atmosphere (GECKO-A; Aumont et al., 2005).

Recent studies take into account not only the oxidation of selected VOCs but also gaseous intermediate volatility, semi-volatile and low-volatility organic compounds (I/S/L-VOCs) emitted by biomass burning to model SOA formation (Koo et al., 2014; Konovalov et al., 2015; Ciarelli et al., 2017). Majdi et al. (2019) show that near fire regions and during the summer of 2007, 52 % to 87 % of the  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations are organic aerosol that is mainly composed of primary and secondary I/S/L-VOCs (62 % to 84 %). They highlight that neglecting primary gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions from

wildfires tends to lessen the surface  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations ( $-30\%$ ). Since ignoring primary gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions biases model predictions of SOA production, several studies based on smog chamber data aim at estimating them (Yokelson et al., 2013; Jathar et al., 2014, 2017). The primary gaseous I/S/L-VOCs emitted by biomass burning are usually calculated using the emissions of POA (Couvidat et al., 2012; Koo et al., 2014) because a part of these I/S/L-VOCs may correspond to POA due to the gas-to-particle partitioning. However, these gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions may also correspond to an unspiciated fraction of non-methane organic gas (NMOG; Jathar et al., 2014, 2017). Jathar et al. (2014) estimate that about 20% of the total NMOG emitted from biomass burning is assumed to be I/S/L-VOCs in the gas phase, while Yokelson et al. (2013) estimate that as much as 35% to 64% of NMOG is I/S/L-VOCs in the gas phase.

Although primary gaseous I/S/L-VOCs are not considered to be or classified as unspiciated NMOG in emission inventories, their contribution to the SOA budget may be substantial, despite being a small fraction of the overall organic gas emissions (Koo et al., 2014; Konovalov et al., 2015; Ciarelli et al., 2017). The gaseous I/S/L-VOCs are usually classified according to their volatilities (Couvidat et al., 2012; May et al., 2013) by taking into account the variation in their average oxidation state (Koo et al., 2014). Different parameterizations have been used to simulate the ageing of gaseous I/S/L-VOCs emitted by the biomass burning: a simple one-step oxidation scheme (Couvidat et al., 2012) or a multi-generational oxidation scheme taking simultaneously functionalization and fragmentation into account at each step (Koo et al., 2014; Ciarelli et al., 2017).

The objective of this work is to quantify the contribution of recently identified SOA precursors from wildfires (guaiacol, syringol, benzene, phenol, catechol, cresol, furan, naphthalene, methylnaphthalene and USC>6 compounds). To that end, a new SOA formation mechanism is developed for those precursors, based on smog chamber experiments under low- and high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions. This new mechanism is used in conjunction with the  $\text{H}^2\text{O}$  mechanism previously developed for biogenic and anthropogenic VOC precursors (xylene, toluene, isoprene, monoterpenes, sesquiterpenes, etc.).

This study aims also to quantify the relative contribution of VOCs and I/S/L-VOCs to OA formation. The OA concentrations are simulated using the chemistry transport model (CTM) Polair3D of the Polyphemus modeling air-quality platform.

This study focuses on two severe fire events that occurred during the summer of 2007 over the Euro-Mediterranean area. Majdi et al. (2019) show a large contribution of wildfires (reaching  $\sim 90\%$ ), mainly in Greece (24–30 August 2007) and in the Balkans (20–31 July 2007, 24–30 August 2007).

This paper is structured as follows. Section 2 details the SOA formation mechanisms from VOCs and I/S/L-VOCs. Then, Sect. 3 describes the model and the simulation setup

during summer of 2007. The main  $\text{OA}_{\text{tot}}$  precursors (VOCs and 4 gaseous I/S/L-VOCs) emitted from wildfires, their emission factors and their emissions are detailed in Sect. 4. Section 5 presents the sensitivity simulations performed to understand the relative impact of VOCs and I/S/L-VOCs on OA formation.

## 2 SOA formation from VOCs and I/S/L-VOCs

### 2.1 SOA formation from VOC oxidation

This section presents a new SOA formation mechanism  $\text{H}^2\text{O}_{\text{aro}}$  developed to represent the SOA formation from the main aromatic VOCs that are estimated to be SOA precursors. The new mechanism ( $\text{H}^2\text{O}_{\text{aro}}$ ) is an extension of the hydrophilic–hydrophobic organic ( $\text{H}^2\text{O}$ ) SOA mechanism, which details the formation of organic aerosols from the oxidation of precursors (Couvidat et al., 2012). Laboratory chamber studies provide the fundamental data that are used to parameterize the atmospheric SOA formation under low- or high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions. The formed organic aerosols are represented by surrogate compounds, with varying water affinity (hydrophobic and hydrophilic). In the original  $\text{H}^2\text{O}$  mechanism, the precursors are I/S/L-VOCs, aromatics (xylene and toluene), isoprene, monoterpenes and sesquiterpene. In the extension  $\text{H}^2\text{O}_{\text{aro}}$  developed here, other VOCs are considered to be SOA precursors (phenol, cresol, catechol, benzene, furan, guaiacol, syringol, naphthalene and methylnaphthalene).

Laboratory chamber studies provide the fundamental data that are used to parameterize the atmospheric SOA formation under low- or high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions. All the experiments used in this paper were conducted under dry conditions, with a relative humidity (RH) lower than 10% and a temperature ranging between 292 and 300 K.

For each VOC, precursor of SOA and chamber experiment, the SOA mass yield ( $Y$ ) is defined as the fraction of the reactive organic gas (ROG) that is converted to SOA. The relationship between the yield and the measured organic aerosol mass concentration (i.e., formed SOA)  $M_0$  (Odum et al., 1996) is

$$Y = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\alpha_i K_{p,i} \cdot M_0}{(1 + K_{p,i} \cdot M_0)}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\alpha_i$  is the molar stoichiometric coefficient of the product (surrogate)  $i$ , and  $K_{p,i}$  is its gas–particle partitioning equilibrium constant.

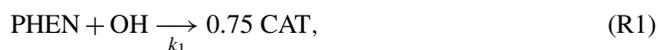
The chamber experimental results are analyzed according to the absorption gas–particle partitioning model developed by Pankow (1994) and Odum et al. (1996). For each VOC, the experimental results ( $Y$ ,  $M_0$ ) are fitted (with the least-mean-square method) either with a one-product model or two-product model by plotting the Odum curve. The stoichiometric coefficients of SOA products, their saturation va-

por pressures and their partitioning gas–particle constants are determined from the experimental results and the Odum curve. Then candidates for SOA surrogates formed by the VOC oxidation are estimated from the literature. For each candidate, the saturation vapor pressure and the partitioning constant are estimated from an empirical method called “the group contribution method” proposed by SIMPOL.1 (Pankow and Asher, 2008). These parameters are used to choose the SOA surrogates amongst the candidates: the SOA surrogates are chosen so that their saturation pressure and partitioning constant are the closest to the ones determined experimentally from the Odum plot.

### 2.1.1 Oxidation of phenol and catechol

Under low- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions, the chamber experiments of Yee et al. (2013), Chhabra et al. (2011) and Nakao et al. (2011) are used to model the SOA formation from phenol oxidation.

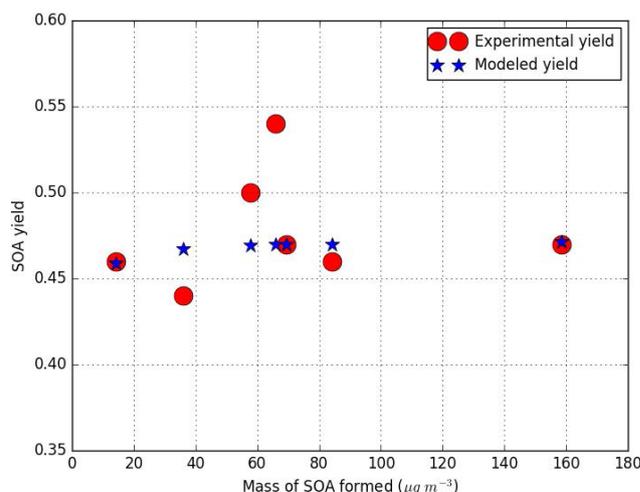
In their studies, and in agreement with the explicit chemical mechanism MCM version 3.3.1 (MCM.v3.3.1), CAT is the dominant product of the first oxidation step of phenol. Therefore, catechol is assumed to be the main intermediary leading to SOA formation from OH oxidation of phenol following Reaction (R1):



where the kinetic constant  $k_1 = 4.7 \times 10^{-13} \exp(1220/T) \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  and the stoichiometric coefficient of catechol are given by MCM.v3.3.1. SOA from phenol are produced essentially from the oxidation of catechol, which is mostly present in the gas phase ( $K_p = 2.57 \text{ m}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$ ). The yields of the SOA surrogates formed from the catechol oxidation by OH are estimated, assuming that Reaction (R1) holds and using the Odum approach with the results (yields and  $M_0$ ) of the experiments conducted by Yee et al. (2013) and Chhabra et al. (2011) for phenol oxidation. The Odum approach (Odum et al., 1996) is used here with only one surrogate (one-product model) to estimate SOA formation parameters, as similar partitioning constants and stoichiometric coefficients are obtained with two surrogates. Figure 1 shows the plots of the SOA yields against the SOA concentrations  $M_0$ . The blue stars are yields from smog chamber experiments, and the red circles are yields estimated by the one-product model.

The one-product model with a stoichiometric coefficient  $\alpha_1$  of 0.28 and a vapor pressure of  $4.59 \times 10^{-8}$  torr correctly reproduces the experimental data. To quantify the spread between the model and experimental data, the root-mean-square error (RMSE) is used as a statistical estimator and calculated as

$$\text{RMSE} = \left( \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^n (\text{Yield}_{\text{exp}} - \text{Yield}_{\text{model}})^2} \right) \cdot 100, \quad (2)$$



**Figure 1.** SOA yield from smog chamber experiments under low- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions (Yee et al., 2013; Chhabra et al., 2011; Nakao et al., 2011), and yield curve for phenol–OH reaction using one-product model.

where  $\text{Yield}_{\text{model}}$  refers to the modeled SOA yield,  $\text{Yield}_{\text{exp}}$  is the experimental SOA yield and  $N$  is the number of experiments. A small amount of spread between the model and experimental data (RMSE of 3.1 %) is quantified. Note that this stoichiometric coefficient (0.28) is similar to the one obtained using the experimental result of Nakao et al. (2011) for the OH oxidation of catechol (0.26). Yee et al. (2013) identified SOA products from phenol oxidation under low- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions. For each product proposed by Yee et al. (2013), vapor saturation pressures are calculated with SIMPOL.1 using the group contribution method. The surrogate is chosen so that its estimated saturation vapor pressure corresponds to the experimental one estimated from the Odum curve. The product ACIDMAL ( $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6\text{O}_5$ , maleylacetic acid) is chosen, as its theoretical vapor pressure ( $5.76 \times 10^{-8}$  torr) is the closest to the experimental one ( $4.59 \times 10^{-8}$  torr). The van Krevelen diagram in Chhabra et al. (2011) presents the properties of SOA from phenol oxidation in terms of O/C and H/C ratios. According to the van Krevelen diagram, the O/C and H/C ratios of SOA from phenol vary from 0.8 to 1 and between 1 and 1.5 respectively. This confirms that ACIDMAL is an acceptable SOA surrogate for the OH oxidation of phenol (O/C = 0.83 and H/C = 1). Because of the lack of experimental data of phenol oxidation under high  $\text{NO}_x$ , ACIDMAL is also used as a high- $\text{NO}_x$  surrogate.

Finally, the oxidation of catechol is modeled following Reaction (R2):



where the kinetic constant  $k_2 = 9.9 \times 10^{-10} \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  is taken from MCM.v3.3.1.

### 2.1.2 Oxidation of cresol

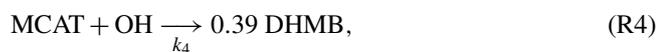
As detailed in the chemical mechanism MCM.v3.3.1, the OH oxidation of cresol (CRESp) leads to the formation of methylcatechol (MCAT), which is the dominant product of the first oxidation step of cresol, presented in Reaction (R3):



where the kinetic constant  $k_3 = 4.65 \times 10^{-10} \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and the stoichiometric coefficient are from MCM.v3.3.1.

The oxidation of methylcatechol by OH leads to the formation of SOA, following a chemical mechanism detailed in Schwantes et al. (2017). Because of the lack of the experimental data under high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions, we consider cresol chemical mechanisms under low- and high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions to be similar. Aerosol yields from the experiments of Nakao et al. (2011) under low- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions are used for the Odum approach. The one-product model is sufficiently accurate to reproduce correctly the data from the smog chamber. Figure 2 plots the SOA yields against the SOA concentrations. A stoichiometric coefficient and a saturation vapor pressure 0.39 and  $3.52 \times 10^{-6}$  torr respectively are found to fit the experimental data accurately, with small differences between the model and experimental data (RMSE of  $\sim 3\%$ ). The oxidation mechanism of MCAT developed by Schwantes et al. (2017) presents the potential candidates of SOA surrogates. For each candidate, the theoretical vapor saturation pressure is calculated using SIMPOL.1 DHMB ( $\text{C}_7\text{H}_6\text{O}_4$ , dihydroxymethylbenzoquinone) has the closest vapor saturation pressure ( $4.2 \times 10^{-6}$  torr) to the experimental vapor pressure calculated from the Odum plot ( $3.52 \times 10^{-6}$  torr), and it is also close to the experimental pressure given in Schwantes et al. (2017) ( $6.3 \times 10^{-6}$  torr).

Finally, the oxidation of methylcatechol is modeled following Reaction (R4):

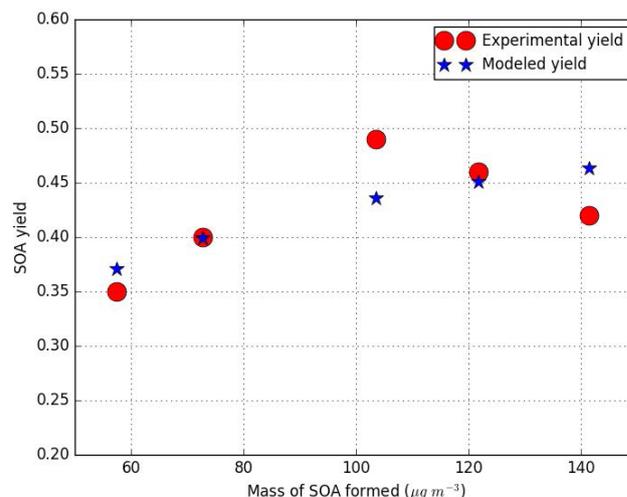


where the kinetic constant  $k_4 = 2 \times 10^{-10} \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  is from MCM.v3.3.1, and the stoichiometric coefficient of DHMB is deduced from the Odum plot.

Several studies focus also on the oxidation of cresol by  $\text{NO}_3$  (Olariu et al., 2013; Grosjean, 1990). This oxidation may not contribute significantly to SOA formation because the  $\text{NO}_3$  oxidation products of cresol are highly volatiles.

### 2.1.3 Oxidation of benzene

According to MCM.v3.3.1, benzene (BENZ) reacts with OH to form phenol, as presented in Reaction (R5).

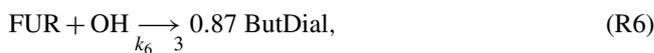


**Figure 2.** SOA yield data from smog chamber under low- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions (Nakao et al., 2011), and yield curve for cresol–OH reaction using one-product model.

where  $k_5 = 2.3 \times 10^{-12} \exp(-190/T) \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  is from MCM.v3.3.1. For the case of benzene, only the formation through the phenolic route is taken into account for simplification purposes. However, due to the high SOA yield of phenol and the high amount of phenol formed through benzene oxidation, the phenolic route should be one of the main pathways for SOA formation. By using the phenol SOA mechanism developed previously in Sect. 2.1.1, the SOA yield through the phenolic of 0.28 is evaluated. This yield is within the range of SOA yields from benzene oxidation (between 0.22 and 0.33) reported by Nakao et al. (2011) for low- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions. It confirms that phenol is probably the main intermediate for the formation of SOA.

### 2.1.4 Oxidation of furan

According to MCM.v3.3.1, furan (FUR) reacts with OH to form an unsaturated 1,4-dicarbonyl product (butendial – ButDial), following Reaction (R6):



where  $k_6 = 4.19 \times 10^{-11} \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  is from MCM.v3.3.1.

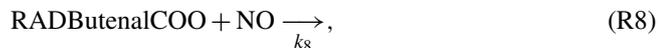
According to MCM.v3.3.1, ButDial reacts with OH to form highly volatile products (not detailed here because they may not form SOA) and a radical (RADButenalCOO), as presented in Reaction (R7):



where  $k_7 = 5.2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  is from MCM.v3.3.1.

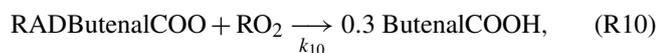
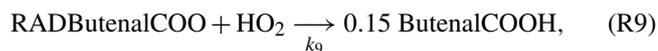
Under high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions, according to MCM.v3.3.1, the oxidation of RADButenalCOO forms highly volatile

products (glyoxal and maleic anhydride), which are not considered here for SOA formation (Reaction R8):



where  $k_8 = 7.5 \times 10^{-12} \exp(980/T) \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  is from MCM.v3.3.1.

Under low- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions, the oxidation of RADButenalCOO forms malealdehydic acid (ButenalCOOH) as shown in Reactions (R9) and (R10):

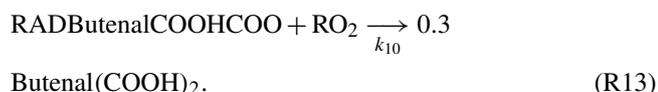
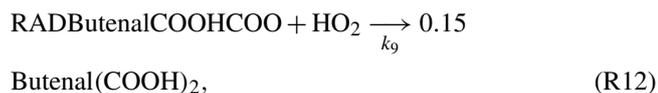


where  $k_9 = 5.2 \times 10^{-13} \exp(980/T) \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and  $k_{10} = 1.10 \times 10^{-11} \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  are from MCM.v3.3.1.

ButenalCOOH is mostly in the gas phase ( $K_p = 1.53 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$ ) and not in the particle phase. However, according to GECKO-A, it may be oxidized by OH to form a radical (RADButenalCOOHCOO) following Reaction (R11):



where  $k_{11} = 2.12 \times 10^{-11} \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  is from GECKO-A. The radical RADButenalCOOHCOO can react similarly to RADButenalCOO under low- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions to form the diacid (Buten(COOH)<sub>2</sub>) as presented in Reactions (R12) and (R13):



Note that the oxidation mechanism of furan presented in this section probably overestimates the SOA concentrations from the OH-oxidation route because several reactions such as ozonolysis and photolysis of both ButenalCOOH and Buten(COOH)<sub>2</sub> are not considered. These reactions may lead to the loss of the main intermediary responsible of SOA formation (ButenalCOOH and Buten(COOH)<sub>2</sub>).

Furthermore, other routes may be more efficient at forming SOA from furan. Jiang et al. (2018) showed that  $\text{NO}_x$  levels and relative humidity (RH) may significantly influence SOA formation from furan, with higher SOA concentrations at high- $\text{NO}_x$  levels and high humidity.

### 2.1.5 Oxidation of syringol and guaiacol

According to Lauraguais et al. (2014), the SOA formation mechanisms from methoxyphenols, namely syringol and

guaiacol, are split into two steps. The first step consists of Reactions (R14) and (R15) with the radical OH:



where  $k_{12} = 9.63 \times 10^{-11} \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $k_{13} = 7.53 \times 10^{-11} \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  are given by Lauraguais et al. (2012) and Coeur-Tourneur et al. (2010a) respectively.

The parameterization is developed for syringol and guaiacol by considering low- $\text{NO}_x$  and high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions based on SOA yields reported by Chhabra et al. (2011), Yee et al. (2013), Lauraguais et al. (2012) and Yee et al. (2013). Generally this compound represents low- $\text{NO}_x$  oxidation products. In this first parameterization it is also used as a high- $\text{NO}_x$  surrogate. Figure 3 shows the modeled Odum plots for syringol SOA formation under both low- $\text{NO}_x$  and high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions. A one-product parameterization is sufficient for properly representing the experimental data for the two regimes. The same surrogate compound can be used for both regimes, as similar partitioning constants are estimated. Among the compounds recognized as syringol oxidation products,  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_5$  (PSYR) is the only product with a vapor saturation pressure, calculated with SIMPOL.1 ( $7.53 \times 10^{-6}$  torr), close to the experimental one estimated from the Odum plot ( $7.72 \times 10^{-6}$  torr). Stoichiometric coefficients of 0.57 and 0.36 are also estimated from the Odum curve under low- and high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions respectively.

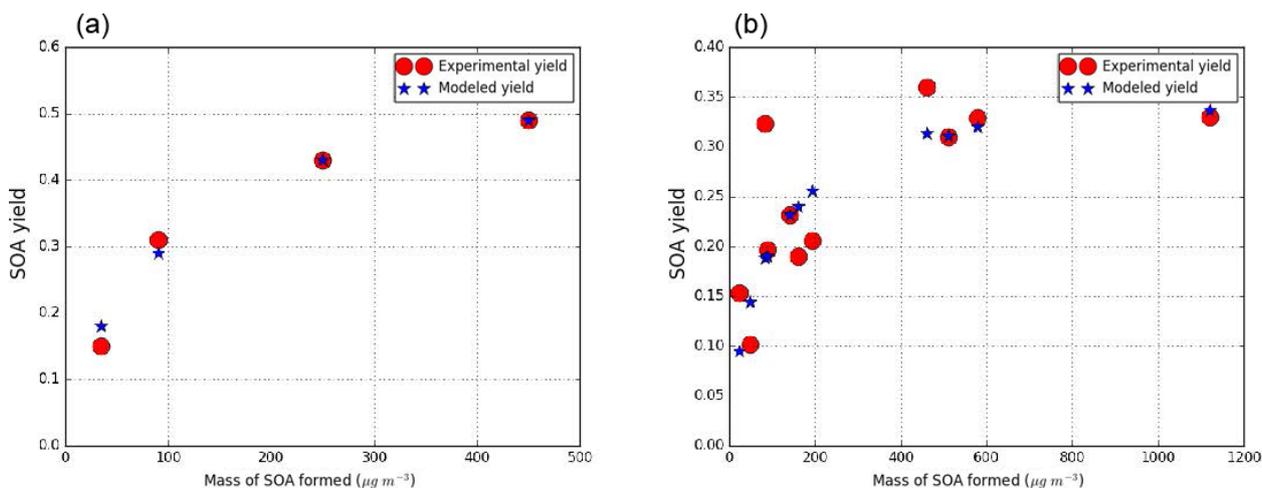
The second reaction step for SOA formation is then represented with the following Reactions (R16), (R17) and (R18):



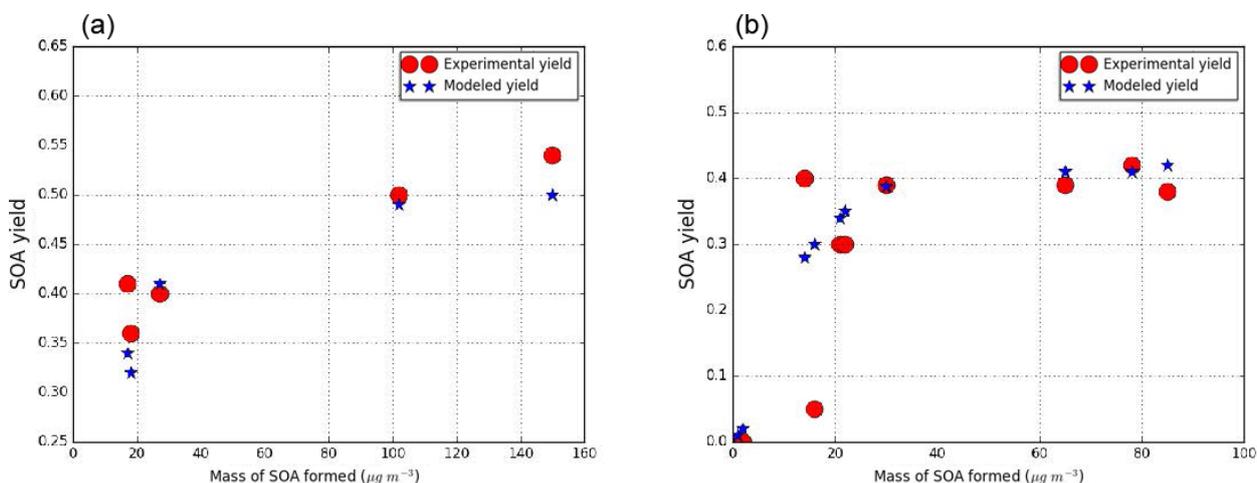
where  $k_{14} = 2.91 \times 10^{-13} \exp(1300/T) \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,  $k_{15} = 2.70 \times 10^{-13} \exp(360/T) \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $k_{16} = 2.30 \times 10^{-12} \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  are from MCM.V3.3.1.

Similarly, for guaiacol, the two  $\text{NO}_x$  regimes are distinguished. One surrogate compound is used for the high- $\text{NO}_x$  and the low- $\text{NO}_x$  parameterizations. Odum plots are presented in Fig. 4.

The surrogate compound chosen to represent SOA formation in both conditions is  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_5$  (GHDPerox), a hydroperoxide proposed as an oxidation product for guaiacol in Yee et al. (2013). It was chosen because the calculated saturation vapor pressure with SIMPOL.1 ( $1.05 \times 10^{-6}$  torr) is close to the one estimated by the Odum method ( $6.01 \times 10^{-7}$  torr). Stoichiometric coefficients of 0.37 and 0.32 are also estimated from the Odum curve under low- $\text{NO}_x$  and high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions respectively. Moreover, according to the van



**Figure 3.** SOA experimental and modeled yield data from smog chamber for syringol under low- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions (a) (experimental data from Chhabra et al., 2011; Yee et al., 2013) and under high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions (b) (experimental data from Yee et al., 2013; Lauraguais et al., 2012).



**Figure 4.** SOA experimental and modeled yield data from smog chamber for guaiacol under low- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions (a) (experimental data from Chhabra et al., 2011; Yee et al., 2013) and under high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions (b) (experimental data from Yee et al., 2013; Lauraguais et al., 2012).

Krevelen plot proposed by Chhabra et al. (2011), the most appropriate guaiacol SOA surrogate has an O/C and H/C ratio respectively in the ranges 0.7–1 and 1.2–1.5. With its O/C and H/C ratios of 0.71 and 1.43 ratios, GHDPerox is in the right position of the van Krevelen plot.

The second part of the OH-oxidation mechanism for guaiacol follows Reactions (R19), (R20) and (R21):



## 2.1.6 Oxidation of naphthalene and methylnaphthalene

As detailed in Couvidat et al. (2013), data from the chamber experiments of Chan et al. (2009) are used to fit two products from the oxidation of naphthalene and methylnaphthalene under low- $\text{NO}_x$  and high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions. The SOA surrogates are chosen amongst the compounds detected by Kautzman et al. (2010). Under low- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions (reactions with  $\text{HO}_2$ , the methylperoxy radical  $\text{MEO}_2$  and the peroxyacetyl radical  $\text{C}_2\text{O}_3$ ), BBPAHIN ( $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6\text{O}_6$ , dihydroxyterephthalic acid) is the surrogate chosen to represent SOA formation from the oxidation of naphthalene and methylnaphthalene. Under high- $\text{NO}_x$  conditions, BBPAHhN ( $\text{C}_8\text{H}_6\text{O}_4$ , phthalic acid) is the surrogate chosen because its theoretical saturation vapor pressure ( $2.04 \times 10^{-7}$  torr), estimated with SIMPOL.1

(Pankow and Asher, 2008), is the closest to the experimental one ( $10^{-6}$  torr) estimated from the Odum curve plotted by Couvidat et al. (2013). The oxidation reactions leading to SOA formation from naphthalene and methylnaphthalene are presented in Table B3 of Appendix B.

### 2.1.7 Oxidation of USC >6 compounds

It is not easy to design a chemical mechanism for the structurally assigned and unassigned compounds with at least six carbon atoms per molecule (USC>6 compounds). Because Bruns et al. (2016) estimated that SOA yields for USC>6 compounds are high, they are represented in the model by a high-yield compound. Phenol and naphthalene are good candidates. Because the oxidation products of naphthalene and phenol are very different (e.g., volatility), a sensitivity simulation is performed by choosing the oxidation mechanism of naphthalene rather than phenol to evaluate the impact of changing the oxidation mechanism.

Table B3 in Appendix B summarizes the oxidation reactions added to the chemical mechanism CB05 for each VOC. All properties of the added compounds are presented in Table B1 of Appendix B. The chemical structure of the SOA compounds is given in Table B2.

## 2.2 SOA formation from I/S/L-VOCs

Different parameterizations may be used to describe the formation of SOA from the gaseous I/S/L-VOCs emitted from wildfires, with or without an ageing scheme: a one-step oxidation scheme (no ageing) and multi-generational oxidation scheme.

In the one-step oxidation scheme, used, for example, in Couvidat et al. (2012), Zhu et al. (2016) and Sartelet et al. (2018), the primary organic aerosols emitted by biomass burning (BBPOAIP for compounds of low volatility, BBPOAmP for compounds of medium volatility and BBPOAhP for compounds of high volatility of saturation concentration  $C^*$ :  $\log(C^*)$  is  $-0.04$ ,  $1.93$  and  $3.5$  respectively) undergo one oxidation step in the gas phase, leading to the formation of secondary surrogates (BBSOAIP, BB-  
SOAmP and BBSOAHP).

Compared to the primary products, the volatility of the secondary products is reduced by a factor of 100, and their molecular weight is increased by 40 % (Couvidat et al., 2012; Grieshop et al., 2009). Tables in Appendix C list the three OH-oxidation reactions and the properties of the primary and secondary surrogates.

For the multi-generational scheme, the VBS approach based on the hybrid VBS (Donahue et al., 2006, 2011; Koo et al., 2014; Ciarelli et al., 2017) is used. In this scheme (Koo et al., 2014; Ciarelli et al., 2017), the basis set uses five volatility surrogates with different saturation concentrations ranging from  $0.1$  to  $1000 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ . BBPOA0, BBPOA1, BBPOA2, BBPOA3 and BBPOA4 refer to the

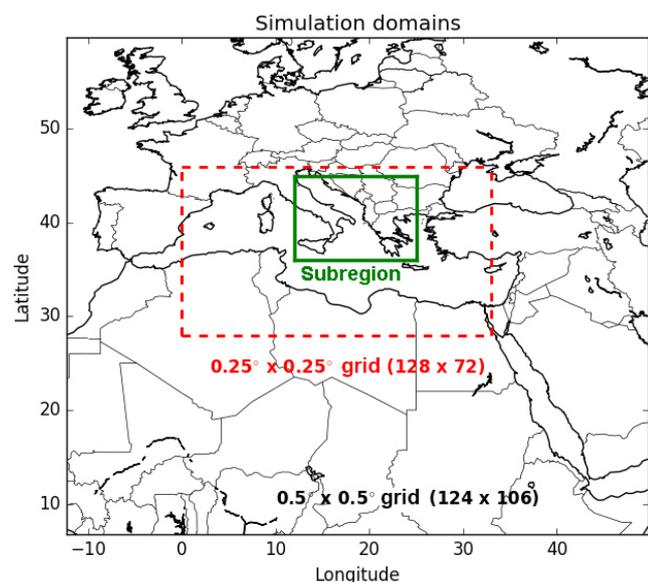
primary surrogates, and BBSOA0, BBSOA1, BBSOA2 and BBSOA3 refer to the secondary ones (see Table D2 of Appendix D for their properties). In the gas phase, the primary and secondary surrogates react with OH at a rate of  $4 \times 10^{-11} \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  (Robinson et al., 2007). During each oxidation step, the oxidation of the surrogate increases the surrogate oxygen number and decreases its volatility and carbon number due to functionalization and fragmentation, which are considered simultaneously during each oxidation reaction. The reactions and the properties of the surrogates of the multi-generational scheme are shown in Appendix D.

## 3 3-D simulation over the Mediterranean region

The impact of wildfires on PM concentrations and optical depths in the Euro-Mediterranean during the summer of 2007 was studied by Majdi et al. (2019).

Here, the CTM Polair3D or Polyphemus (Mallet et al., 2007; Sartelet et al., 2012) is used with a similar setup to Majdi et al. (2019) and summarized here. A modified version of the Carbon Bond 05 model (CB05; Yarwood et al., 2005; Kim et al., 2011) is used for gas-phase chemistry with the SIZe REsolved Aerosol Model (SIREAM; Debry et al., 2007) for aerosol dynamics (coagulation and condensation or evaporation). The meteorological fields are provided by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF; ERA-Interim). Boundary conditions of the nesting domain are obtained from the global chemistry transport model MOZART-GEOS5 6-hourly simulation outputs (Emmons et al., 2010). Anthropogenic emissions are generated from EMEP inventory for 2007 (European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme; <http://www.emep.int>, last access: 19 April 2019). Biogenic emissions are estimated with the Model of Emissions of Gases and Aerosols from Nature (MEGAN-LHIV, Guenther et al., 2006). Sea-salt emissions are parameterized following Monahan (1986). The soil and surface database of Menut et al. (2013) is used to calculate the dust emissions considering the spatial extension of potentially emitted area in Europe described in Briant et al. (2017). The daily fire emissions are calculated using the APIFLAME fire emission model v1.0 (Turquety et al., 2014), as described in Majdi et al. (2019).

Two domains are considered in this study (Fig. 5): one nesting domain covering Europe and North Africa and one nested over the Mediterranean. The horizontal resolutions used are  $0.5^\circ \times 0.5^\circ$  and  $0.25^\circ \times 0.25^\circ$  for the nesting and nested domains respectively. The vertical dimension is discretized with 14 levels in Polyphemus (from the ground to 12 km). Since the largest fires in the Euro-Mediterranean domain occur mainly in the Balkans and eastern Europe (between 20 July and 31 July 2007), in Greece (between 24 August and 30 August), and in southern Italy (between 9 July and 31 July 2007; Majdi et al., 2019), we choose to focus on the subregion indicated in the green box in Fig. 5.



**Figure 5.** Simulation domains, including one large domain (with a  $0.5^\circ \times 0.5^\circ$  horizontal resolution) and a smaller domain (at a  $0.25^\circ \times 0.25^\circ$  horizontal resolution) delimited by the dotted red box. The subregion (Balkans, Greece, Eastern Europe and Italy) indicated in green box, is used in this study.

The CB05 gas-phase chemical mechanism is used in conjunction with the chemical mechanism  $H_2O$  to model the formation of SOA from five classes of precursors, namely I/S/L-VOCs of anthropogenic emissions, aromatic VOCs, isoprene, monoterpene and sesquiterpenes (Kim et al., 2011; Couvidat et al., 2012). In this work, the SOA mechanism  $H_2O_{aro}$  developed in Sect. 2.1 for aromatic VOCs, precursors of SOA, is added. Gas–particle partitioning is modeled using a thermodynamic equilibrium model for multiphase multicomponent inorganic aerosols (ISORROPIA; Nenes et al., 1999) for inorganics and using a secondary organic aerosol processor (SOAP) for organics (Couvidat and Sartelet, 2015), assuming thermodynamic equilibrium between gases and particles.

As in Majdi et al. (2019), POA from fire and anthropogenic emissions are assumed to be the condensed phase of I/S/L-VOCs. The gaseous emissions of I/S/L-VOCs from wildfires and their ageing are described in Sect. 2.2.

Dry deposition of gaseous I/S/L-VOCs from wildfires is parameterized based on Wesely (1989), modeling deposition as a series of resistors consisting of an atmospheric, laminar sublayer and bulk surface resistance. The surface resistance is a function of the effective Henry's law constant ( $H_{eff}$ ;  $M atm^{-1}$ ). For I/S/L-VOCs, this constant varies with the volatility, as detailed in Hodzic et al. (2016). The reactivity factor  $f_0$ , which corresponds to the ability of a dissolved gas to oxidize biological substances in solution, may range from 0 for non-reactive species to 1 for highly reactive species. In this work, the  $f_0$  value is set to 0.1 (Karl

et al., 2010; Knote et al., 2015). All the parameters used to compute the dry-deposition velocities of the I/S/L-VOCs are summarized in Table E1 of Appendix E.

The reference simulation uses the same setup as Majdi et al. (2019). The evaluation of Majdi et al. (2019) of the simulation includes both ground-based and satellite remote-sensing (MODIS) observations. Ground-based observations of  $PM_{2.5}$  at eight AIRBASE stations and of aerosol optical depth at six AERONET stations are used. The evaluation shows good performances of the model, especially when wildfires are taken into account in the simulation. Enhancements in PM concentrations due to wildfires are simulated at  $\pm 1$  d of uncertainty in the timing compared to satellite observations (MODIS), with a strong contribution from organic compounds (61 %; Majdi et al., 2019).

#### 4 Sensitivity simulations

To assess the relative influence of emissions of VOCs and I/S/L-VOCs from wildfires on OA concentrations, six sensitivity simulations are performed. The setup of the different simulations is summarized in Table 1.

The reference simulation OnestepISLVOC uses the default setup, i.e., the setup used in the previous study (Majdi et al., 2019): for VOC emissions, only toluene and xylene are considered (as detailed in Sect. 5.1), while gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions are estimated from POA emissions, and their ageing is modeled using a one-step oxidation scheme. The simulation MultstepISLVOC is conducted to highlight the impact of the ageing scheme of the gaseous I/S/L-VOCs from wildfires on SOA formation. To do so, the multi-generational scheme (Ciarelli et al., 2017) is used for the gaseous I/S/L-VOCs from wildfires.

To assess the impact of VOCs on SOA formation, the simulation Multstep-withVOC uses the same setup as the simulation MultstepISLVOC, but all the VOCs, which are SOA precursors, are added to the model, as detailed in Sect. 5. Because the relative impact of I/S/L-VOCs on OA formation depends on how gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions are computed, the simulation Multstep-UnNMOG-withVOC is the same as the simulation Multstep-withVOC, but the gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions are assumed to be unidentified NMOG, and they are estimated from NMOG emissions (as described in Sect. 5.2).

The sensitivity of two parameters involved in the modeling of the ageing of these VOCs is also assessed: the enthalpy of vaporization ( $\Delta H_{vap}$ ) of the SOA formed from the oxidation of the VOCs and the SOA formation mechanism from USC>6 compounds.

Several studies consider  $\Delta H_{vap}$  of the formed SOA to be constant (Sheehan and Bowman, 2001; Donahue et al., 2005; Stanier et al., 2007). For SOA from  $\alpha$ -pinene, Donahue et al. (2005) estimated  $\Delta H_{vap}$  to be about  $30 kJ mol^{-1}$ . This is lower than the  $\Delta H_{vap}$  values calculated for individual com-

ponents using SIMPOL.1. The calculated  $\Delta H_{\text{vap}}$  values are in the range of 54–132 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>. Stanier et al. (2007) also estimated  $\Delta H_{\text{vap}}$  to be in the range of 10–50 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>. In the simulation Multstep-withVOC-Enthalpy-SIMPOL.1, the enthalpy of vaporization is calculated for the SOA surrogates formed from VOCs using SIMPOL.1 rather than being constant as in the simulation Multstep-withVOC. In the simulation Multstep-withVOC-USC>6naph, the SOA formation mechanism from USC>6 compounds is taken to be the formation mechanism of naphthalene, rather than being the same as the formation mechanism of phenol in the simulation Multstep-withVOC.

## 5 Emissions of SOA precursors from wildfires

To better understand the contribution of OA<sub>tot</sub> precursors emitted by wildfires and their relative importance for OA<sub>tot</sub> and OA formation, the estimation of OA<sub>tot</sub> precursors emissions is first detailed. Two categories of SOA precursors are distinguished depending on their volatilities: VOCs and gaseous I/S/L-VOCs.

### 5.1 VOC emissions

Bruns et al. (2016) identified the most significant gaseous VOC precursors of SOA from residential wood combustion and presented their contribution to SOA concentrations. Although wood fire stove smoke emissions may not be representative of wildfires, they provide some indication of the SOA precursors involved during wildfires. In this work, VOC precursors emitted from wildfires are chosen based on the list of Bruns et al. (2016), their emission factors for wildfires and SOA yields. Toluene, xylene, phenol, benzene, catechol, cresol, furan, naphthalene, methyl-naphthalene, and the structurally assigned and unassigned compounds with at least six carbon atoms per molecule (USC>6 compounds) are retained. Table A1 in Appendix A shows the VOCs, the corresponding SOA yields and emission factors from fires of various vegetation types. Note that although Biogenic VOC (BVOC) emissions may increase during wildfires, as suggested by Ciccioli et al. (2014), the potential increase in BVOC emissions from wildfires is not considered here due to a lack of data.

Daily fire emissions of toluene, xylene, phenol, benzene and furan are estimated by the APIFLAME fire emission model (Turquety et al., 2014). The emissions of factors in Akagi et al. (2011) are used to calculate the emissions of each species from the carbon emissions. The emission factors of toluene, xylene, benzene, furan and phenol are available in the Akagi et al. (2011) inventory and provided in terms of grams of species per kilogram of dry biomass burned for different standard vegetation types (temperate forest, crop residues, pasture maintenance, savanna and chaparral). Using

an aggregation matrix, emissions of these inventory VOCs are converted to model species.

However, cresol, catechol, syringol, guaiacol, naphthalene and methyl-naphthalene emission factors are missing from the Akagi et al. (2011) inventory. For cresol, catechol, guaiacol and syringol, these emission factors are calculated from the molar emission ratio to phenol, and for naphthalene and methyl-naphthalene, they are calculated from the molar emission ratio to benzene (Stockwell et al., 2015) following Eq. (3):

$$EF_i = ER_{\text{mass},i} \cdot EF_x = \left( ER_{\text{mol},i} \cdot \frac{M_{w,i}}{M_{w,x}} \right) \cdot EF_x, \quad (3)$$

where  $i$  represents a VOC (cresol, catechol, guaiacol, syringol, naphthalene and methyl-naphthalene),  $ER_{\text{mass},i}$  is the mass emission ratio of the VOC  $i$  to phenol or benzene,  $EF_x$  is the mass emission factor of phenol or benzene (determined using APIFLAME),  $ER_{\text{mol},i}$  is the molar emission ratio of the VOC  $i$  (cresol, catechol, guaiacol, syringol, naphthalene and methyl-naphthalene),  $M_{w,i}$  is the molar weight of the VOC  $i$ , and  $M_{w,x}$  is the molar weight of phenol (= 90 g mol<sup>-1</sup>) or benzene (= 78 g mol<sup>-1</sup>).

For two types of vegetation  $j$  (chaparral and crop residue), the emission ratios  $ER_{\text{mol},i,j}$  are obtained from Stockwell et al. (2015). Then in each model grid cell, the emission ratio of the VOC  $i$  (cresol, catechol, guaiacol, syringol, naphthalene or methyl-naphthalene) to phenol or benzene is obtained by weighting the emission ratios over the burned vegetation types:

$$ER_{\text{mol},i} = \sum_{j=1}^n F_{\text{veg},j} \cdot ER_{\text{mol},i,j}, \quad (4)$$

where  $F_{\text{veg},j}$  is the burning fraction for each vegetation type, and  $ER_{\text{mol},i,j}$  is the emission ratio of the VOC  $i$  to phenol or benzene for each vegetation type.

Considering only these two types of vegetation (crop residue and chaparral) for which emission ratios are available may lead to an underestimation of the emission factors and therefore the emissions of cresol, catechol, guaiacol, syringol, naphthalene and methyl-naphthalene emissions. Indeed, Fig. 6 shows the percentages of the different vegetation types in the burned area detected over the subregion. Chaparral and crop residue make only 29.5 % of burned area detections. Savanna and temperate forest are considered to be the dominant vegetation types detected in the burned areas, and their contributions to burned area detections reach 32.7 % and 37.2 % respectively. Therefore, neglecting the emission factors for temperate forest and savanna would lead to a significant underestimation of the SOA precursor emissions. Because the EF of VOCs emitted by wildfires of crop residue, chaparral, temperate forest and savanna in the inventory of Akagi et al. (2011) are often of the same order of magnitude (Table A1 of Appendix A), it is assumed here that temperate forest and savanna have the same EF as chaparral for

**Table 1.** Summary of the sensitivity simulations performed by Polyphemus (n/a: not applicable).

Simulations	Wildfires				
	Gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions	Gaseous I/S/L-VOC ageing	Added VOCs precursors	$\Delta H_{\text{vap}}$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	USC>6 mechanism
OnestepISLVOIC	From POA	One step	No	n/a	n/a
MultstepISLVOIC	From POA	Multi-generational	No	n/a	n/a
Multstep-withVOC	From POA	Multi-generational	Yes	50	Phenol mechanism
Multstep-UnNMOG-withVOC	From NMOG	Multi-generational	Yes	50	Phenol mechanism
Multstep-withVOC-Enthalpy-SIMPOL.1	From POA	Multi-generational	Yes	SIMPOL.1	Phenol mechanism
Multstep-withVOC-USC>6naph	From POA	Multi-generational	Yes	50	Naphthalene mechanism

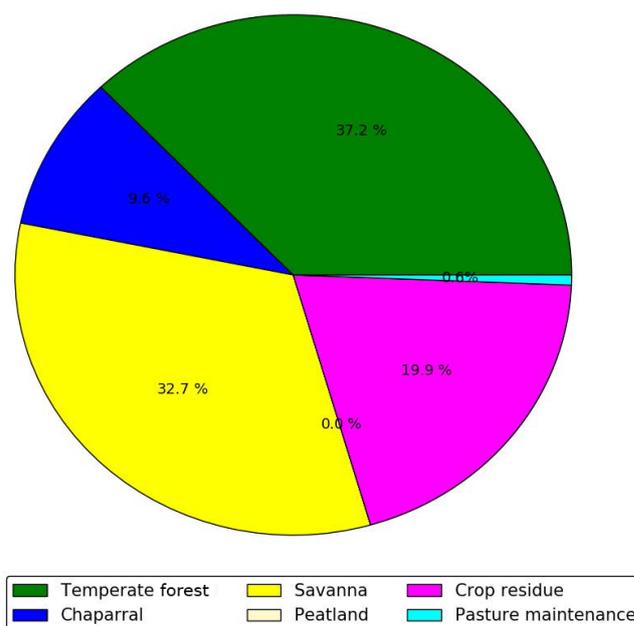
cresol, catechol, guaiacol, syringol, naphthalene and methyl-naphthalene. This assumption is justified by considering uncertainties linked to emissions: Turquety et al. (2014) estimated that the uncertainties in the emitted carbon related to fire emissions can reach 100%. They found that the database used for the type of vegetation burned plays a significant role in the emitted carbon (~75% associated uncertainty). Moreover, the inventory used in this work (APIFLAME Turquety et al., 2014) is mainly based on the emission factors of Akagi et al. (2011) using data from different field and laboratory experiments. Uncertainties related to these emission factors are high. For example, Alves et al. (2011) measured carbon monoxide (CO) emissions for forest fires in Portugal that were 2.6 times higher than the values of Akagi et al. (2011) for extra-tropical forests.

According to Bruns et al. (2016), the structurally assigned and unassigned compounds with at least six carbon atoms per molecule (USC>6 compounds) are expected to contribute to SOA formation based on their structures, but their SOA yields are unknown. In this work, USC>6 compound emissions are deduced by multiplying phenol emissions by a factor of 1.7, deduced from the ratio of the SOA contribution of USC>6 compounds to the SOA contribution of phenol (Bruns et al., 2016).

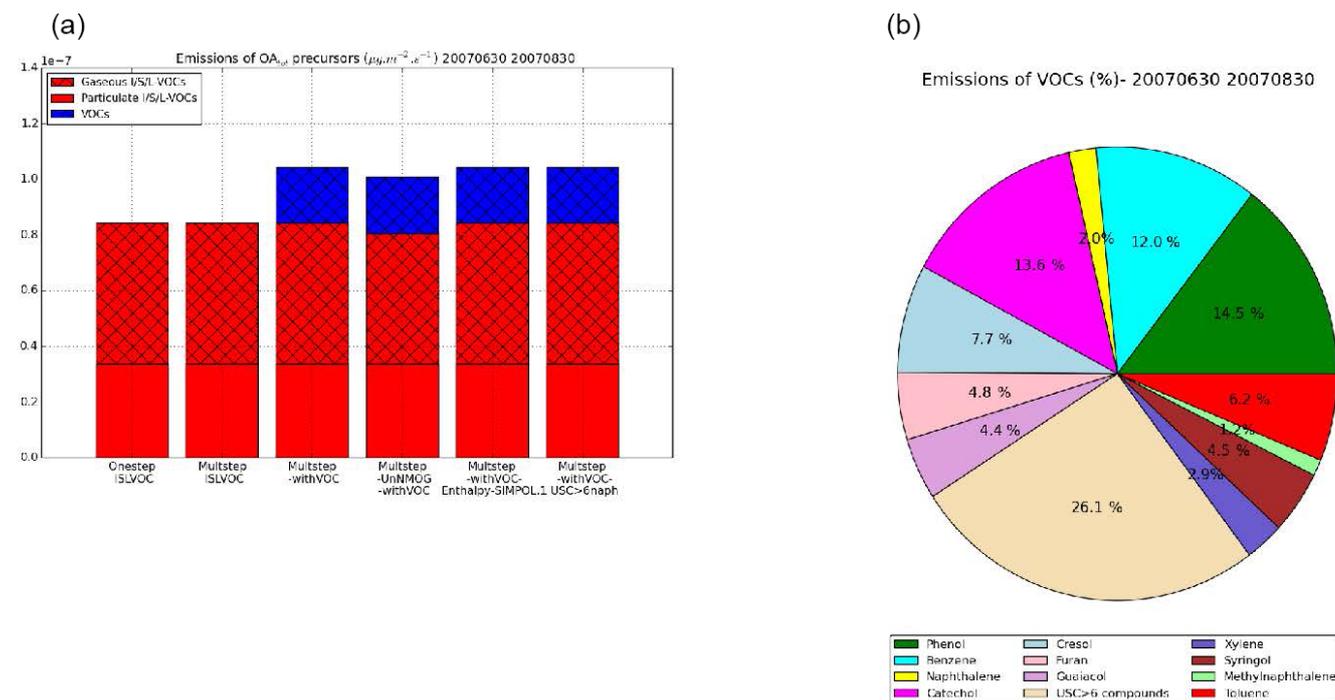
## 5.2 I/S/L-VOC emissions

The gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions from wildfires are estimated either from the POA emissions released from wildfires, by multiplying them by a constant ratio of I/S/L-VOC/POA=1.5 (Kim et al., 2016), or from the unspiciated NMOG released from wildfires (Jathar et al., 2014). The fraction of unspiciated NMOG is estimated as the difference between the total NMOG emissions from the Akagi et al. (2011) inventory and the VOC emissions, which represent the sum of the total identified NMOG in the Akagi et al. (2011) inventory plus the VOCs previously added to the Akagi et al. (2011) inventory (cresol, catechol, guaiacol, syringol, naphthalene, methyl-naphtha-

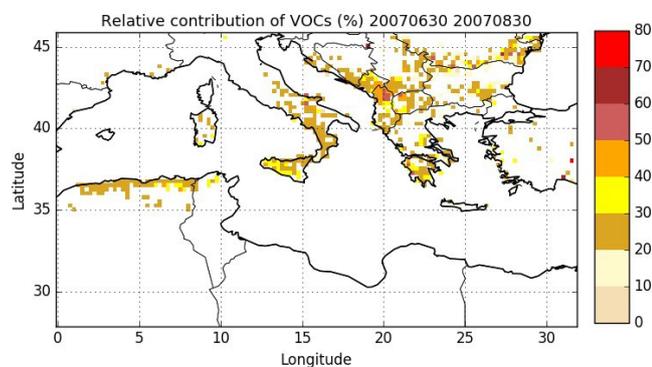
Vegetation types in the burned area detected in subregion (%)

**Figure 6.** Percentage of the different vegetation types in the burned area detected over the subregion during the summer of 2007.

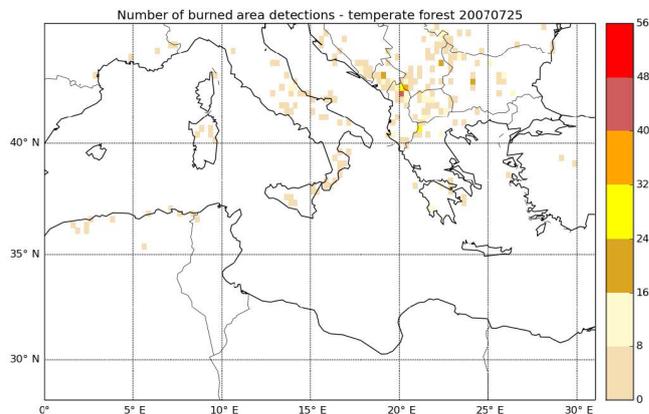
lene and USC>6 compounds). In this work, as in Jathar et al. (2017), these unspiciated NMOG are assumed to be gaseous I/S/L-VOCs. They represent 36% of the total NMOG emissions, consistent with the work of Yokelson et al. (2013), which estimates that between 35% to 64% of NMOG are the gaseous I/S/L-VOCs. Similarly to anthropogenic emissions (detailed in Sect. 3), the gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions from wildfires are distributed into three volatility bins depending on their saturation concentration ( $\log(C^*)$ ): low volatility – BBPOAIP,  $\log(C^*) = -0.04$ ; medium volatility – BBPOAmP,  $\log(C^*) = 1.93$ ; and high



**Figure 7.** Emissions of the  $OA_{tot}$  precursors from wildfires for the different sensitivity simulations (a) and percentage of emissions for each VOC (b) over the subregion during the summer of 2007.



**Figure 8.** Relative contribution of VOCs to gaseous precursors (VOCs plus gaseous I/S/L-VOCs; %) emitted by wildfires over the Mediterranean area during the summer of 2007.



**Figure 9.** Number of burned area detections for temperate forest on 25 July 2007.

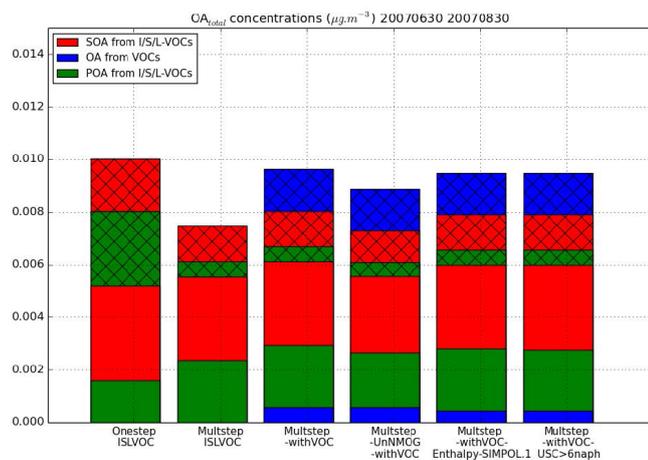
volatility – BBPOAhP,  $\log(C^*) = 3.5$ ). The volatility distribution at emission is 25 %, 32 % and 43 % for BBPOAIP, BBPOAmP and BBPOAhP respectively (Couvidat et al., 2012; May et al., 2013; Ciarelli et al., 2017).

### 5.3 Emissions over the Mediterranean domain

Fig. 7a presents the emissions of total (gas plus particle)  $OA_{tot}$  precursors (VOCs and I/S/L-VOCs) for the different sensitivity simulations, spatially and temporally averaged over the subregion (Fig. 5) and during the summer of 2007. The emissions of VOCs and I/S/L-VOCs are sim-

ilar in all the sensitivity simulations except for the simulation Multistep-UnNMOG-withVOC, which estimates the gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions from NMOG. The emissions of gaseous I/S/L-VOCs estimated from NMOG emissions are slightly lower than those estimated from POA emissions. The emissions of gaseous I/S/L-VOCs (estimated from POA or from NMOG) are higher by a factor of about 2.5 than the emissions of VOCs.

The spatial distribution of the relative contribution of VOCs to gaseous precursors emissions (I/S/L-VOCs from NMOG plus VOCs) is assessed in Fig. 8. Emissions of wild-



**Figure 10.** Mean surface  $OA_{tot}$  concentrations from different  $OA_{tot}$  precursors over the subregion for each sensitivity simulation. The cross-hatched part corresponds to OA concentrations in the gaseous phase, while the plain parts correspond to OA concentrations in the particle phase.

fires occur mostly over the Balkans, Greece, southern Italy, Eastern Europe and northern Algeria, with a relative contribution of VOCs mostly between 20 % and 40 %. Locally, over the Balkans, the contribution of VOCs can be higher (between 40 % and 60 %). Figure 9 shows the number of burned area detections for temperate forest. The high contribution of VOCs in the Balkans is probably explained by the high number of burned areas detected for temperate forest, which is considered one of the dominant vegetation types in the burned areas.

Fig. 7b shows the distribution of VOCs between the different compounds emitted over the subregion during the summer of 2007. USC>6 compounds dominate (26.1 %), followed by phenol (14.5 %), catechol (13.6 %), benzene (12 %), toluene (7 %), furan (5 %) and cresol (4 %). The other VOCs (SOA precursors) contribute to 3 % or less of the VOC emissions.

## 6 Results and discussion

The influence of VOCs and I/S/L-VOCs on OA and  $OA_{tot}$  concentrations is discussed in this section as well as the sensitivity to some parameters for OA and  $OA_{tot}$  formation from VOCs and gaseous I/S/L-VOCs.

### 6.1 Influence on OA concentrations

Figure 10 presents the  $OA_{tot}$  concentrations from different precursors emitted by biomass burning (VOCs and I/S/L-VOCs). The contributions of the different  $OA_{tot}$  precursors from different simulations are compared. In the simulation Multistep-withVOC, the precursors are VOCs and I/S/L-VOCs with gaseous emissions estimated from POA and with

ageing by the multi-step oxidation scheme. In the simulations OnestepISLVOC and MultistepISLVOC, the precursors are I/S/L-VOCs with gaseous emissions estimated from POA emissions and with ageing by the one-step and the multi-step oxidation schemes respectively. In the simulation Multistep-UnNMOG-withVOC, the precursors are VOCs and I/S/L-VOCs with gaseous emissions estimated from NMOG emissions and with ageing by the multi-step oxidation scheme.

The emissions of VOCs are lower than those of gaseous I/S/L-VOCs estimated from NMOG (or POA) emissions by almost a factor of about 2.5. This preponderance of I/S/L-VOCs is observed not only for emissions but also for concentrations. The primary and secondary OA concentrations from gaseous I/S/L-VOCs (estimated from NMOG emissions and from POA emissions) are about 10 times higher than the OA concentrations from VOCs. Most of the OA and  $OA_{tot}$  concentrations are formed from I/S/L-VOCs (about 90 % and 75 % respectively). The OA concentrations are slightly higher (by about 10 %) when the gaseous I/S/L-VOCs are estimated from POA rather than from NMOG emissions. This difference corresponds to the difference observed in emissions (gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions estimated from POA are slightly higher than those estimated from NMOG).

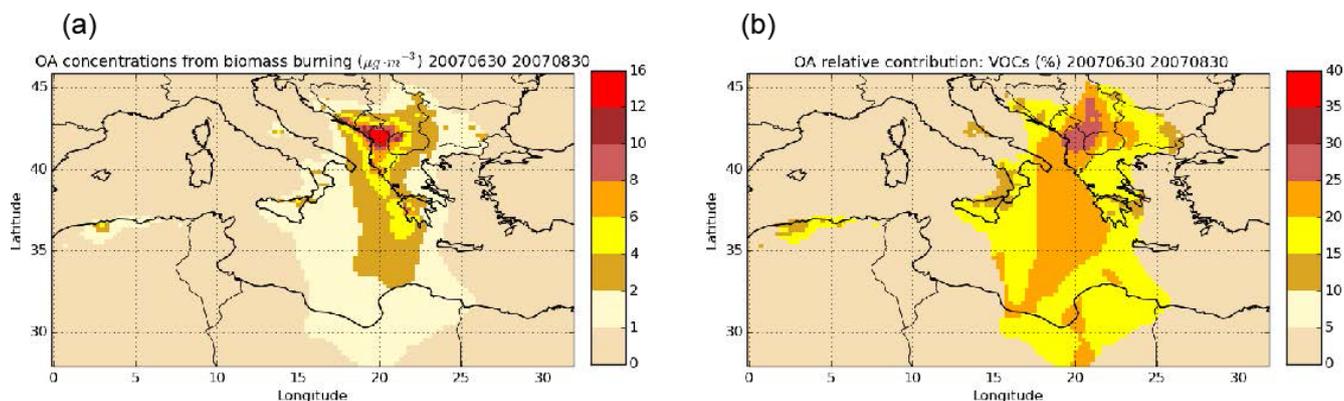
Across our cases, 28 % to 42 % of the OA concentrations from I/S/L-VOC emissions are primary. The amount of POA from I/S/L-VOC emissions in simulation OnestepISLVOC (28 %) is lower than the one in the simulation MultistepISLVOC (42 %) because of the differences in the volatility properties of the species in the two ageing schemes.

The OA concentrations simulated with the one-step and the multi-generational schemes are nearly similar (about 5 % difference). However, the primary and secondary  $OA_{vapor}$  concentrations (the gas phase of  $OA_{tot}$  concentrations) are lower with the multi-generational scheme because of fragmentation.

A large part of  $OA_{tot}$  concentrations from VOCs ( $\sim 70$  %) is in the gas phase. This suggests that the influence of the VOC emissions on particle OA concentrations could be larger if the surrogates from these VOC oxidations partition more easily to the particle phase. This could be the case if further ageing mechanisms are considered for these VOCs or if the particles are very viscous (Kim et al., 2019).

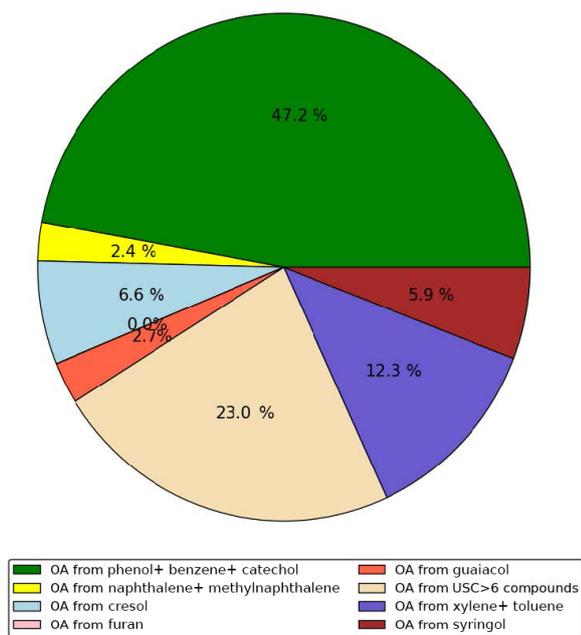
Using the SOA formation mechanism of naphthalene rather than the SOA formation mechanism of phenol affects the  $OA_{tot}$  concentrations from VOCs slightly ( $\sim 3$  %). Similar results are found when calculating the enthalpy of vaporization of the formed SOA with SIMPOL.1 instead of using a constant ( $\Delta H = 50 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ). This shows that the SOA formation from VOCs is poorly sensitive to these parameters involved in the modeling of the VOCs ageing.

Figure 11 presents the contribution of VOCs to biomass-burning OA concentrations, as simulated by the simulation Multistep-withVOC. In agreement with the preponderance of the contribution of I/S/L-VOCs discussed above, the VOC contribution is between 10 % and 25 % in most of the



**Figure 11.** Daily mean surface OA concentrations from wildfires (a) and the relative contribution of VOCs (%) to OA from wildfires (b) during the summer of 2007 (simulation Multstep-withVOC).

Contribution to OA from VOC oxidation (%) - 20070630 20070830



**Figure 12.** Distribution of the OA concentrations formed from the different VOCs emitted by wildfires over the subregion during the summer of 2007 (simulation Multstep-withVOC).

Mediterranean where biomass-burning OA concentrations are above  $1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ . A larger contribution of VOCs (reaching 30 %) is observed in the Balkans, where the biomass-burning OA concentrations are the highest, with a large fraction of temperate forests burning.

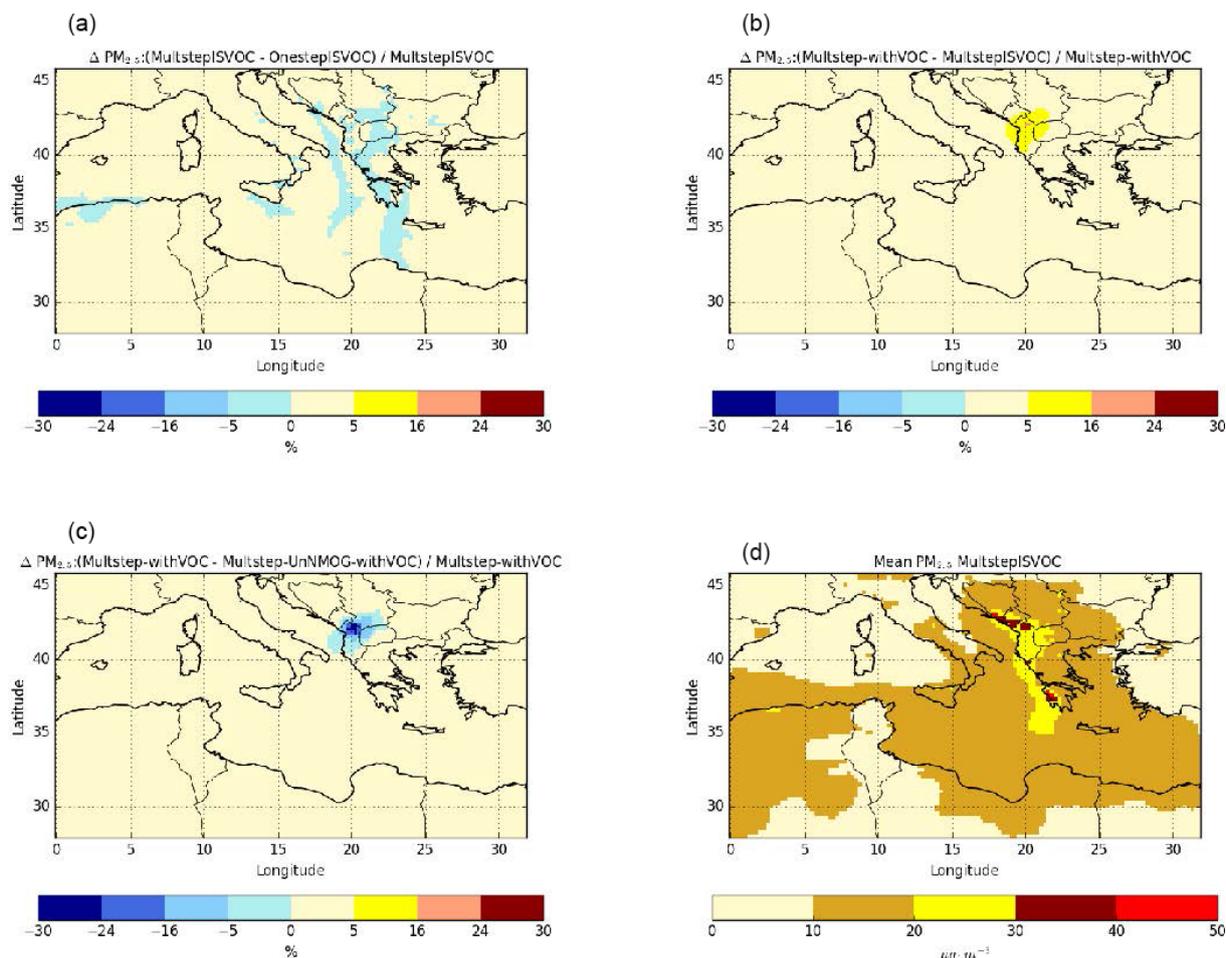
Figure 12 shows the distribution of the OA concentrations formed from the different VOCs emitted by wildfires in the simulation Multistep-withVOC over the subregion during the summer of 2007. The largest contribution comes from phe-

mol, benzene and catechol. It represents about 47 % of the OA concentrations from VOCs and 40 % of the VOC emissions. The second-largest contribution comes from USC>6 compounds. It represents about 23 % of the OA concentrations from VOCs and 26 % of the VOC emissions. Toluene and xylene, which were taken into account in the previous version of the model, have a high yield compared to other VOCs. They make about 12 % of the OA concentrations from VOCs, whereas their emissions represent about 9 % of the VOC emissions. Furan, which makes about 5 % of VOC emissions, does not contribute to OA concentrations (contribution lower than 1 %). Cresol contributes equally to VOC emissions and SOA concentrations (about 7 %). Syringol, which contributes to only 4 % of VOC emissions, contributes to about 6 % of the OA concentrations. The other VOCs (naphthalene, methyl-naphthalene and guaiacol) have a low contribution (equal to or lower than 3 %).

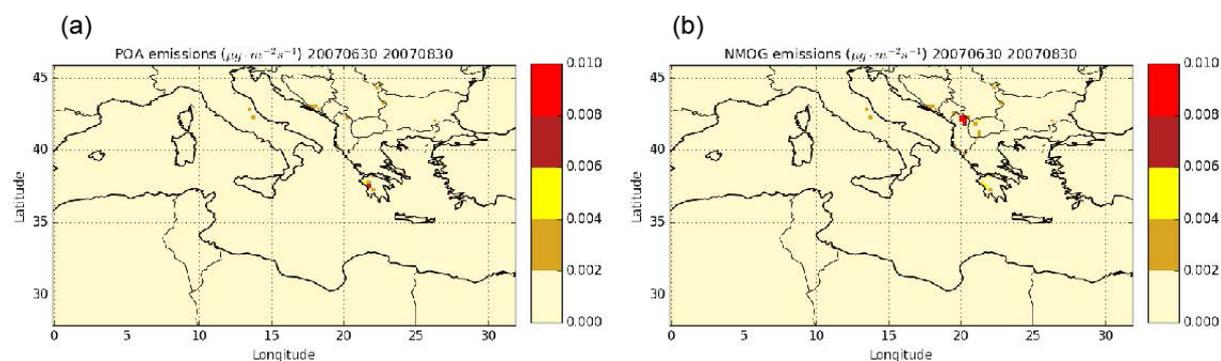
## 6.2 Sensitivity of $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations

To assess the sensitivity of  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations to VOCs and gaseous I/S/L-VOCs and parameters related to their emissions or ageing, differences of  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations among the sensitivity simulations are compared. The sensitivity to the gaseous I/S/L-VOC ageing scheme is assessed by computing relative differences between the simulations OnestepISLVOC and MultstepISLVOC. The sensitivity to the gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions is assessed by computing the relative difference between the simulations Multstep-withVOC and Multstep-UnNMOG-withVOC. The sensitivity to the VOC emissions is assessed by computing the relative difference between the simulations Multstep-withVOC and MultstepISLVOC.

Figure 13 shows the average  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations as well as relative differences of  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations among the sensitivity simulations. The  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations are especially high, with average concentrations above  $20 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  where wildfires occur, especially in the Balkans and Greece.



**Figure 13.** Sensitivity of surface  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations to the gaseous I/S/L-VOC ageing scheme (a), the SOA from the selected VOC (b), the SOA from gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions estimated from NMOG (c) and daily mean  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations from the Multstep-withVOC simulation (d) during the summer of 2007 (from 30 June to 30 August 2007).



**Figure 14.** Daily mean POA (a) and NMOG (b) emissions from wildfires during the summer of 2007.

Majdi et al. (2019) studied the simulation OnestepIS-LVOC and found that comparing to  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  observations, the model tends to underestimate  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations (MFB =  $-32\%$ ). Moreover, they highlighted that surface  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations are sensitive to gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions,

and their impact on surface  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations over the fire regions can reach 10%–20% in the fire plume and 30% locally.

Concerning the influence of the gaseous I/S/L-VOC ageing scheme, the relative differences between the simulations

OnestepISLVOC and MultstepISLVOC are low (below 5 %). The differences can be positive or negative because the one-step oxidation scheme and the multi-step oxidation schemes lead to SOA of different volatilities. The sign of the differences depends on the SOA volatilities and on the partitioning between the gas and the particle phases of I/S/L-VOCs, which itself depends on PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations. The comparison of the relative difference of PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations between the simulations OnestepISLVOC and MultstepISLVOC (Fig. 13a) and the daily mean PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations (Fig. 13d) shows that the differences tend to be positive (higher concentrations with multi-generational ageing than with one-step ageing) in the regions of strong fires where PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations are high and negative in the fire plume where PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations are lower.

The emissions of the added VOCs (namely benzene, phenol, cresol, catechol, furan, guaiacol, syringol, naphthalene, methylnaphthalene, and the structurally assigned and unassigned compounds with at least six carbon atoms per molecule (USC>6) lead to a moderate increase in PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations (up to 25 % in the Balkans; Fig. 13b). PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations are more sensitive to the parameterization used to estimate the gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions.

Estimating the gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions from POA rather than from NMOG results in higher local PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations (+8 % to +16 % in Greece) and lower PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations mainly in the Balkans (−30 %) and in the fire plume that is visually determined (−8 % to −16 %). The larger fraction of PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations is shown in the Balkans, where the gaseous I/S/L-VOC emissions from NMOG are higher than those emitted from POA. This is explained by differences in NMOG and POA emissions. Figure 14 shows daily mean emissions of POA and NMOG from wildfires during the summer of 2007. The main differences between POA and NMOG emissions are located in the Balkans, where the largest fraction of burned temperate forest is observed. In Akagi et al. (2011), the emission factor of POA is unavailable for temperate forest. This may be explained by the lower POA emissions in the Balkans.

## 7 Conclusions

This study quantified the relative contribution of OA<sub>tot</sub> precursors (VOCs and I/S/L-VOCs) emitted by wildfires to OA formation and particle concentrations during the summer of 2007 over the Euro-Mediterranean region. A new chemical mechanism H<sup>2</sup>O<sub>aro</sub> was developed to represent the SOA formation from selected VOCs, namely toluene, xylene, benzene, phenol, cresol, catechol, furan, guaiacol, syringol, naphthalene, methylnaphthalene, and the structurally assigned and unassigned compounds with at least six carbon atoms per molecule (USC>6), based on smog chamber experiments under low- and high-NO<sub>x</sub> conditions. This mechanism was implemented in the chemistry transport model

Polair3D of the air-quality platform Polyphemus. Over the Euro-Mediterranean area, the OA concentrations emitted by wildfires originate mostly from I/S/L-VOCs. The OA concentrations from gaseous I/S/L-VOCs are about 10 times higher than the OA concentrations from VOCs. However, the contribution of the oxidation of VOCs to the OA concentrations is locally significant (it reaches 30 % in the area close to where wildfires are emitted and 20 % in the fire plume). Air-quality models often represent SOA formation from only a few VOCs, such as toluene and xylene. This study points out the need to consider the contribution of a variety of VOCs, namely, phenol, benzene, catechol, cresol, xylene, toluene and syringol, when modeling SOA formation from wildfires. The contribution of these VOCs may even be underestimated here for two reasons. First, the yields from smoke chamber experiments were not corrected for wall losses, and they may therefore be underestimated, leading to an underestimation of the SOA formation from VOCs in the model. Second, a large part of OA concentrations from VOCs is in the gas phase (~70 %). This suggests that the influence of the VOC emissions on OA concentrations could be larger if the surrogates from these VOC oxidations partition more easily to the particle phase. This could be the case if further ageing mechanisms are considered for these VOCs or if the particles are very viscous (Kim et al., 2019). Emissions of gaseous I/S/L-VOCs are a large source of uncertainties. However, similar estimates were obtained here by using, as a proxy, POA emissions (with a factor of 1.5) or NMOG emissions (with a factor of 0.36). Sensitivity simulations were performed to quantify the uncertainties in OA and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations linked to I/S/L-VOC emissions and chemical evolution (ageing). They are found to be lower than the uncertainties associated with SOA formation from VOC emissions. This stresses the need to consider a variety of VOCs in SOA formation model and to better characterize their emission factors.

*Data availability.* Data can be requested from the corresponding author (marwa.majdi@enpc.fr).

## Appendix A

**Table A1.** The VOCs that are SOA precursors and their emission factors (EFs) and SOA yields. EFs from Akagi et al. (2011) are in regular font, ERs from Stockwell et al. (2015) are in italic font, and EFs in bold font are deduced from the assumption considering that temperate forest and savanna have the same EF as chaparral.

VOCs	EF* (g kg <sup>-1</sup> )					Y <sub>SOA</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub> regime
	Savanna	Crop residue	Pasture maintenance	Temperate forest	Chaparral		
Phenol	0.52	0.52	1.68	0.33	0.45	0.44 <sup>a</sup>	Low or high NO <sub>x</sub>
Cresol	<b>0.26</b> <sup>1</sup>	<i>0.35</i> <sup>1</sup>	–	<b>0.26</b> <sup>1</sup>	<i>0.26</i> <sup>1</sup>	0.36 <sup>b</sup>	Low NO <sub>x</sub>
Benzene	0.20	0.15	0.70	–	–	0.33 <sup>c</sup>	Low or high NO <sub>x</sub>
Catechol	<b>0.90</b> <sup>1</sup>	<i>0.48</i> <sup>1</sup>	–	<b>0.90</b> <sup>1</sup>	<i>0.90</i> <sup>1</sup>	0.39 <sup>b</sup>	Low NO <sub>x</sub>
Furan	0.17	0.11	2.63	0.2	0.18	0.05 <sup>e</sup>	High NO <sub>x</sub>
Syringol	<b>0.27</b> <sup>1</sup>	<i>0.23</i> <sup>1</sup>	–	<b>0.27</b> <sup>1</sup>	<i>0.27</i> <sup>1</sup>	0.26 <sup>a,f</sup>	Medium-high NO <sub>x</sub>
Guaiacol	<b>0.27</b> <sup>1</sup>	<i>0.81</i> <sup>1</sup>	–	<b>0.27</b> <sup>1</sup>	<i>0.27</i> <sup>1</sup>	0.45 <sup>a,f</sup>	Medium NO <sub>x</sub>
Naphthalene	<b>0.16</b> <sup>2</sup>	<i>0.31</i> <sup>2</sup>	–	<b>0.16</b> <sup>2</sup>	<i>0.16</i> <sup>2</sup>	0.52 <sup>e,f</sup>	Medium NO <sub>x</sub>
Methylnaphthalene	<b>0.06</b> <sup>2</sup>	<i>0.22</i> <sup>2</sup>	–	<b>0.06</b> <sup>2</sup>	<i>0.06</i> <sup>2</sup>	0.52 <sup>e,f</sup>	Medium-low NO <sub>x</sub>
Toluene	0.08	0.19	0.34	–	–	0.24 <sup>c,g</sup>	Low or high NO <sub>x</sub>
Xylene	0.01	–	–	0.11	–	0.20 <sup>c,f</sup>	Low or high NO <sub>x</sub>

<sup>a</sup> Yee et al. (2013). <sup>b</sup> Nakao et al. (2011). <sup>c</sup> Ng et al. (2007). <sup>d</sup> Gómez et al. (2008). <sup>e</sup> Chan et al. (2009). <sup>f</sup> Chhabra et al. (2011). <sup>g</sup> Hildebrandt et al. (2009).

<sup>1</sup> Emission ratio (ER) of the VOC to phenol from Stockwell et al. (2015). <sup>2</sup> Emission ratio of the VOC to benzene from Stockwell et al. (2015).

## Appendix B

Table B1. Properties of the compounds added to the model.

Species	Species names	Formula molecular	Mw <sup>a</sup>	$\Delta H_{\text{vap}}^{\text{b}}$	$P_{\text{sat}}^{\text{c}}$	$K_{\text{p}}^{\text{d}}$	$H^{\text{e}}$
PHEN	Phenol	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O	94	60.88	$99.99 \times 10^2$	$1.98 \times 10^{-6}$	–
CAT	Catechol	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	110	76.91	$6.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.57 \times 10^{-4}$	–
ACIDMAL	Maleylacetic acid	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	158	81.66	$4.59 \times 10^{-8}$	2.56	$8.68 \times 10^{11}$
BENZ	Benzene	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	78	43.25	15.23	$1.30 \times 10^{-8}$	–
CRESp	Cresol	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O	108	64.53	$3.98 \times 10^{-6}$	$3.75 \times 10^{-12}$	–
MCAT	Methylcatechol	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	124	81.36	$2.46 \times 10^{-4}$	$6.08 \times 10^{-4}$	–
DHMB	Dihydroxymethylbenzoquinone	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	154	81.73	$3.52 \times 10^{-6}$	$3.4 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.62 \times 10^9$
FUR	Furan	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> O	68	27.45	$5.925 \times 10^2$	$2.5 \times 10^{-7}$	–
ButDial	Butendial	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	84	54.03	1.89	$1.17 \times 10^{-7}$	–
RADButenalCOO	Radical	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	99	–	–	–	–
ButenalCOOH	Malealdehydic acid	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	100	66.92	0.0122	$1.53 \times 10^{-5}$	–
RADButenCOOHCOO	Radical	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	115	–	–	–	–
Buten2COOH	Maleic acid	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	116	79.83	$7.803 \times 10^{-5}$	0.00238	$1.03 \times 10^9$
SYR	Syringol	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	154	77.41	$5.49 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0002195	–
GUAI	Guaiacol	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	124	68.89	$7.41 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.02 \times 10^{-3}$	–
RADSYR	Radical	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>9</sub> O <sub>3</sub> *	171	–	–	–	–
RADGUAI	Radical	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> O <sub>2</sub> *	141	–	–	–	–
PSYR	Syringol SOA	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	186	96.25	$7.53 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.294 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.45 \times 10^{+9}$
GHDPerox	Guaiacol SOA (hydroperoxide)	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	174	99.52	$5.41 \times 10^{-7}$	0.1972	$9.89 \times 10^{+9}$
NAPH	Naphthalene	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	128	61.38	0.0398	$3.64 \times 10^{-6}$	–
NAPHP	Radical	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>7</sub> *	127	–	–	–	–
MNAPH	Methylnaphthalene	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>10</sub>	142	65.26	0.0150	$8.73 \times 10^{-6}$	–
MNAPHP	Radical	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>9</sub> *	141	–	–	–	–
BBPAHIN	Dihydroxyterephthalic acid	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	198	131.62	$1 \times 10^{-12}$	93817.62.59	$1.65 \times 10^{+19}$
BBPAHhN	Phthalic acid	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	166	97.95	$10^{-6}$	97.95	$1.49 \times 10^{+9}$
USC>6phen	–	–	94	60.88	$99.99 \times 10^2$	$1.98 \times 10^{-6}$	–
USC>6CAT	Catechol	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	110	76.91	$6.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.57 \times 10^{-4}$	–
USC>6ACIDMAL	Maleylacetic acid	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	158	81.66	$4.59 \times 10^{-8}$	2.56	$8.68 \times 10^{11}$
USC>6naph	–	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	128	61.38	0.0398	$3.64 \times 10^{-6}$	–
USC>6NAPHP	Radical	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>7</sub> *	127	–	–	–	–
USC>6BBPAHIN	Dihydroxyterephthalic acid	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	198	131.62	$10^{-12}$	93817.62.59	$1.65 \times 10^{+19}$
USC>6BBPAHhN	Phthalic acid	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	166	97.95	$10^{-6}$	50	$1.49 \times 10^{+9}$

<sup>a</sup> Molar weight (g mol<sup>-1</sup>). <sup>b</sup> Enthalpy of vaporization (kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>). <sup>c</sup> Saturation vapor pressure (torr). <sup>d</sup> Partitioning constant (m<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>). <sup>e</sup> Henry's law constant (Matm<sup>-1</sup>).

**Table B2.** Chemical structure of SOA compounds considered in this study.

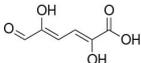
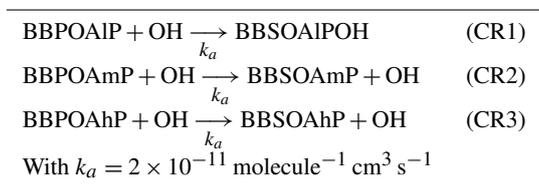
SOA species	Chemical structure
ACIDMAL	
DHMB	
Buten2COOH	
PSYR	
GHDPerox	
BBPAHIN	
BBPAHhN	

Table B3. Reactions leading to SOA formation added to CB05.

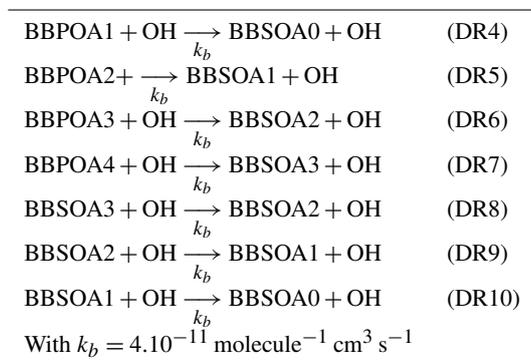
Reactions	Kinetic rate parameter (molecule <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )
PHEN + OH → 0.75 CAT + OH	$4.7 \times 10^{-13} \exp(1220/T)$
CAT + OH → 0.28 ACIDMAL + OH	$9.9 \times 10^{-10}$
BENZ + OH → 0.53 PHEN + OH	$2.3 \times 10^{-12} \exp(-190/T)$
CRESp + OH → 0.73 MCAT + OH	$4.65 \times 10^{-10}$
MCAT + OH → 0.39 DHMB + OH	$2 \times 10^{-10}$
FUR + OH → 0.87 ButDial + OH	$4.19 \times 10^{-11}$
ButDial + OH → 0.83 RADButenalCOO + OH	$5.20 \times 10^{-11}$
RADButenalCOO + HO <sub>2</sub> → 0.15 ButenalCOOH + HO <sub>2</sub>	$5.20 \times 10^{-13} \exp(980/T)$
RADButenalCOO + NO → NO	$7.5 \times 10^{-12} \exp(290/T)$
RADButenalCOO + XO <sub>2</sub> → 0.3 ButenalCOOH + XO <sub>2</sub>	$1.0 \times 10^{-11}$
ButenalCOOH + OH → 0.3 RADButenCOOHCOO + OH	$2.12 \times 10^{-11}$
RADButenCOOHCOO + HO <sub>2</sub> → 0.15 Buten2COOH + HO <sub>2</sub>	$5.20 \times 10^{-13} \exp(980/T)$
RADButenCOOHCOO + NO → NO	$7.50 \times 10^{-12} \exp(980/T)$
RADButenCOOHCOO + XO <sub>2</sub> → 0.3 Buten2COOH + XO <sub>2</sub>	$1.0 \times 10^{-11}$
SYR + OH → RADSyr + OH	$9.63 \times 10^{-11}$
RADSyr + HO <sub>2</sub> → 0.57 PSyr + HO <sub>2</sub>	$2.91 \times 10^{-13} \exp(1300/T)$
RADSyr + NO → 0.36 PSyr + NO	$2.70 \times 10^{-13} \exp(360/T)$
RADSyr + NO <sub>3</sub> → 0.36 PSyr + NO <sub>3</sub>	$2.30 \times 10^{-12}$
GUAI + OH → RADGUAI + OH	$7.53 \times 10^{-11}$
RADGUAI + HO <sub>2</sub> → 0.37GHDPerox + HO <sub>2</sub>	$2.91 \times 10^{-13} \exp(1300/T)$
RADGUAI + NO → 0.32GHDPerox + NO	$2.70 \times 10^{-13} \exp(360/T)$
RADGUAI + NO <sub>3</sub> → 0.32GHDPerox + NO <sub>3</sub>	$2.30 \times 10^{-12}$
NAPH + OH → NAPHP + OH	$2.44 \times 10^{-11}$
NAPH + HO <sub>2</sub> → 0.44 BBPAHIN + HO <sub>2</sub>	$3.75 \times 10^{-13} \exp(980/T)$
NAPH + MEO <sub>2</sub> → 0.44 BBPAHIN + MEO <sub>2</sub>	$3.56 \times 10^{-14} \exp(708/T)$
NAPH + C <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> → 0.44 BBPAHIN + C <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	$7.40 \times 10^{-13} \exp(765/T)$
NAPH + NO → 0.26 BBPAHhN + NO	$2.70 \times 10^{-11} \exp(360/T)$
NAPH + NO <sub>3</sub> → 0.26 BBPAHhN + NO <sub>3</sub>	$1.2 \times 10^{-12}$
MNAPH + OH → 0.26 MNAPHP + OH	$2.44 \times 10^{-11}$
MNAPH + HO <sub>2</sub> → 0.46 BBPAHIN + HO <sub>2</sub>	$2.44 \times 10^{-11}$
MNAPH + MEO <sub>2</sub> → 0.46 BBPAHIN + MEO <sub>2</sub>	$3.56 \times 10^{-14} \exp(708/T)$
MNAPH + C <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> → 0.46 BBPAHIN + C <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	$7.40 \times 10^{-13} \exp(765/T)$
MNAPH + NO → 0.37 BBPAHhN + NO	$2.70 \times 10^{-11} \exp(360/T)$
MNAPH + NO <sub>3</sub> → 0.37 BBPAHhN + NO <sub>3</sub>	$1.2 \times 10^{-12}$
USC>6 <sub>phen</sub> + OH → 0.75 USC>6CAT + OH	$4.7 \times 10^{-13} \exp(1220/T)$
USC>6CAT + OH → 0.28 USC>6ACIDMAL + OH	$9.9 \times 10^{-10}$
USC>6 <sub>NAPH</sub> + OH → USC>6NAPHP + OH	$2.44 \times 10^{-11}$
USC>6NAPHP + HO <sub>2</sub> → 0.44 USC>6BBPAHIN + HO <sub>2</sub>	$3.75 \times 10^{-13} \exp(980/T)$
USC>6NAPHP + MEO <sub>2</sub> → 0.44 USC>6BBPAHIN + MEO <sub>2</sub>	$3.56 \times 10^{-14} \exp(708/T)$
USC>6NAPHP + C <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> → 0.44 USC>6BBPAHIN + C <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	$7.40 \times 10^{-13} \exp(765/T)$
USC>6NAPHP + NO → 0.26 USC>6BBPAHhN + NO	$2.70 \times 10^{-11} \exp(360/T)$
USC>6NAPHP + NO <sub>3</sub> → 0.26 USC>6BBPAHhN + NO <sub>3</sub>	$1.2 \times 10^{-12}$

## Appendix C

**Table C1.** Ageing mechanism of I/S/L-VOCs using Couvidat approach (Couvidat et al., 2012).**Table C2.** Properties of primary and secondary I/S/L-VOCs.

Surrogates	Emission fraction	Molecular weight (g mol <sup>-1</sup> )	Log C*	Enthalpy of vaporization (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )
BBPOAIP	0.25	280	-0.04	106
BBPOAmP	0.32	280	1.94	91
BBPOAhP	0.43	280	3.51	79
BBSOAIP	–	392	-2.04	106
BBSOAmP	–	392	-0.06	91
BBSOAhP	–	392	1.51	79

## Appendix D

**Table D1.** Ageing mechanism of I/S/L-VOCs using Ciarelli approach (Ciarelli et al., 2017).**Table D2.** Properties of the VBS species (primary and secondary I/S/L-VOCs).

Surrogates	Emission fraction	Molecular weight (g mol <sup>-1</sup> )	Log C*	Enthalpy of vaporization (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )
BBPOA0	0.2	216	-1	77.5
BBPOA1	0.1	216	0	70
BBPOA2	0.1	216	1	62.5
BBPOA3	0.2	216	2	55
BBPOA4	0.4	215	3	35
BBSOA0	-	194	-1	35
BBSOA1	-	189	0	35
BBSOA2	-	184	1	35
BBSOA3	-	179	2	35

## Appendix E

**Table E1.** Summary of the parameters used to compute the dry-deposition velocities of the gaseous I/S/L-VOCs.

Species	Molecular weight <sup>a</sup>	$C^{*b}$	$H_{\text{eff}}^c$	Reactivity factor ( $f_0$ )	Diffusivity <sup>d</sup>	$\alpha^e$	$\beta^f$
BBPOAIP	280	091	$4.10^{+5}$	0.1	0.0634	0	0.05
BBPOAmP	280	87.09	$1.6 \times 10^{+5}$	0.1	0.0634	0	0.05
BBPOAhP	280	3235	$10^{+5}$	0.1	0.0634	0	0.05
BBSOAIP	392	0.009	$1.3 \times 10^{+7}$	0.1	0.0388	0	0.5
BBSOAmP	392	0.87	$4. \times 10^{+5}$	0.1	0.0388	0	0.5
BBSOAhP	392	32.35	$1.45 \times 10^{+5}$	0.1	0.0388	0	0.5
BBPOA0	216	0.1	$3.2 \times 10^{+5}$	0.1	0.072	0	0.05
BBPOA1	216	1	$4 \times 10^{+5}$	0.1	0.072	0	0.05
BBPOA2	216	10	$1.3 \times 10^{+5}$	0.1	0.072	0	0.05
BBPOA3	216	100	$1.6 \times 10^{+5}$	0.1	0.072	0	0.05
BBPOA4	215	1000	$10^{+5}$	0.1	0.072	0	0.05
BBSOA0	194	0.1	$3.2 \times 10^{+5}$	0.1	0.0762	0	0.05
BBSOA1	189	1	$4.0 \times 10^{+5}$	0.1	0.0771	0	0.05
BBSOA2	184	10	$1.3 \times 10^{+5}$	0.1	0.0783	0	0.05
BBSOA3	179	100	$1.6 \times 10^{+5}$	0.1	0.0793	0	0.05

<sup>a</sup> Molar weight ( $\text{g mol}^{-1}$ ). <sup>b</sup> Saturation concentration ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). <sup>c</sup> Effective Henry constant ( $\text{M atm}^{-1}$ ). <sup>d</sup> Diffusivity ( $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ). <sup>e</sup> Parameter for cuticle and soil resistance scaling to  $\text{SO}_2$ . <sup>f</sup> Parameter for cuticle and soil resistance scaling to  $\text{O}_3$ .

*Author contributions.* MM, KS, GL and FC developed the chemical mechanisms. ST and MM prepared VOC emissions from fires. MM performed the simulations, with help from MC and KS for the post-processing. MM, KS and GL prepared the paper with contributions from all co-authors.

*Competing interests.* The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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