



*Supplement of*

## **Characterization of a new Teflon chamber and on-line analysis of isomeric multifunctional photooxidation products**

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Hereinafter, the following abbreviations are used for toluene photooxidation products and their internal standards (here sorted according to their retention time, as in Table 1 in the main text): phenol-d<sub>6</sub> (PHE-d<sub>6</sub>), *o*-cresol (OCR), *m*-cresol (MCR), *p*-cresol (PCR), benzyl alcohol (BOH), *o*-nitrotoluene (ONT), (nitromethyl)benzene (NMB), *m*-nitrotoluene (MNT), benzoic acid (BAC), *p*-methylcatechol (PMC), glycolaldehyde (GAL), nitrocresols (NCR), pyruvic acid (PAC), acetophenone-d<sub>8</sub> (APH-d<sub>8</sub>), benzaldehyde (BAL), glyoxal (GLY), methylglyoxal (MGL), *p*-hydroxybenzaldehyde (PHB).

## **S1 Emission Spectrum of Solar Simulator**

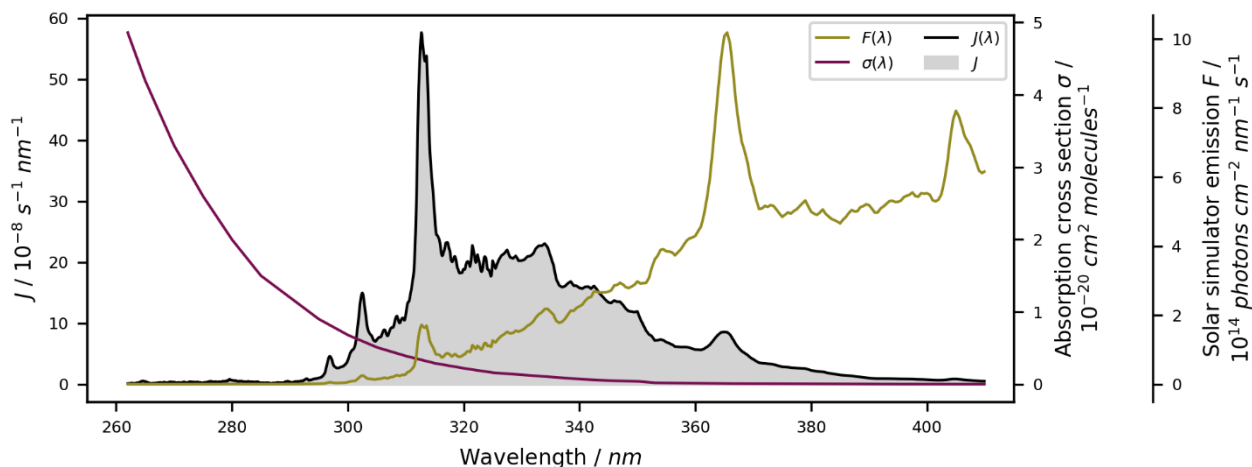
### **S1.1 Photolysis Rates**

We calculated the compound-specific photolysis rates theoretically in order to overcome the restriction to compounds with available authentic standards, and to exclude mutual formation and solvent effects associated with the empirical evaluation of a large range of in parts solid photooxidation products. The compound-specific absorption cross sections and quantum yields and the resulting photolysis rates are listed in Table S1. The calculation of the photolysis rate from the emission spectrum and the absorption cross section is illustrated exemplarily for H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> in Fig. S1 (quantum yield = 1).

**Table S1: Calculated photolysis rates of the measured photooxidation products and other relevant compounds in the BATCH Teflon chamber.** Unless stated otherwise, values apply to T = 298 K. The wavelength ranges for which the photolysis rates were calculated were restricted by the available absorption cross section data, and the recorded emission spectrum of the solar simulator ( $\lambda > 262$  nm). If no absorption cross section was available, the photolysis rate was set to zero. If no quantum yield was available, it was set to 1. Whenever available, IUPAC-recommended values were selected. The uncertainty of the photolysis rates is 38 %.

Compound	Absorption cross section / nm range	Quantum yield / molecules photons <sup>-1</sup>	Photolysis rate / s <sup>-1</sup>	Note
OCR	250 – 291 (Etzkorn et al., 1999)	1	7.42±2.82×10 <sup>-6</sup>	
MCR	250 – 291 (Etzkorn et al., 1999)	1	7.40±2.81×10 <sup>-6</sup>	
PCR	250 – 291 (Etzkorn et al., 1999)	1	1.17±0.44×10 <sup>-5</sup>	
BOH	220 – 280 (El Dib et al., 2006)	1	4.60±1.75×10 <sup>-8</sup>	
ONT	171 – 300 (Shama, 1991)	0.004 (Sandus and Slagg, 1972)	3.01±1.14×10 <sup>-7</sup>	
NMB	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	set to zero
MNT	171 – 301 (Shama, 1991)	0.0008 (Sandus and Slagg, 1972)	1.77±0.67×10 <sup>-8</sup>	
BAC	220 – 280 (Roth et al., 2010)	1	1.33±0.51×10 <sup>-6</sup>	T = 293 – 357 K
PMC	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	set to zero
GAL	205 – 335 (Bacher et al., 2001) <sup>(a)</sup>	0.75 (Bacher et al., 2001) <sup>(a)</sup>	1.01±0.38×10 <sup>-5</sup>	
NCR	320 – 450 (Chen et al., 2011) <sup>(a)</sup>	0.0001 (Bejan et al., 2006)	1.93±0.73×10 <sup>-5</sup>	2-nitro- <i>p</i> -cresol, T = 293 K
PAC	251 – 407 (Horowitz et al., 2001) <sup>(a)</sup>	0.24 (Reed Harris et al., 2016)	1.49±0.57×10 <sup>-4</sup>	
BAL	220 – 395 (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup>	0.29 (Zhu and Cronin, 2000) <sup>(a)</sup>	2.52±0.96×10 <sup>-4</sup>	
GLY	250 – 473 (Volkamer et al., 2005) <sup>(a)</sup>	$\phi(\lambda)$ (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup>	2.57±0.98×10 <sup>-4</sup>	T = 296 K
MGL	219 – 493 (Meller et al., 1991) <sup>(a)</sup>	$\phi(\lambda)$ (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup>	3.02±1.15×10 <sup>-4</sup>	T = 296 K
PHB	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	set to zero
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	190 – 350 (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup> 353 – 410 (Kahan et al., 2012)	1 (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup>	1.13±0.43×10 <sup>-5</sup>	T = 296.0 – 297.4 K
Toluene	115 – 315 (Serralheiro et al., 2015)	1	3.78±1.44×10 <sup>-7</sup>	
NO <sub>2</sub>	205 – 495 (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup>	$\phi(\lambda)$ (Troe, 2000) <sup>(a)</sup>	2.07±0.79×10 <sup>-2</sup>	
NO <sub>3</sub>	400 – 690 (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup>	$\phi(\lambda)$ (Johnston et al., 1996) <sup>(a)</sup>	3.07±1.17×10 <sup>-1</sup>	

<sup>(a)</sup> IUPAC recommendation.



**Figure S1: Photolysis of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> as a source of OH radicals in the BATCH Teflon chamber.** The emission  $F$  of the solar simulator, absorption cross section  $\sigma$  of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, and resulting photolysis rate  $J$  as functions of wavelength are shown. The overall photolysis rate is derived from the integration of the wavelength-specific photolysis rate. The quantum yield of the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> photolysis equals unity over the entire wavelength range and is therefore not illustrated specifically.

### S1.2 Actinometry

We performed actinometric experiments with NO<sub>2</sub> and methylglyoxal to confirm the emission spectrum that we recorded for the solar simulator.

For the NO<sub>2</sub> chemistry, reactions (R1), (R2), and (R3) need to be considered:

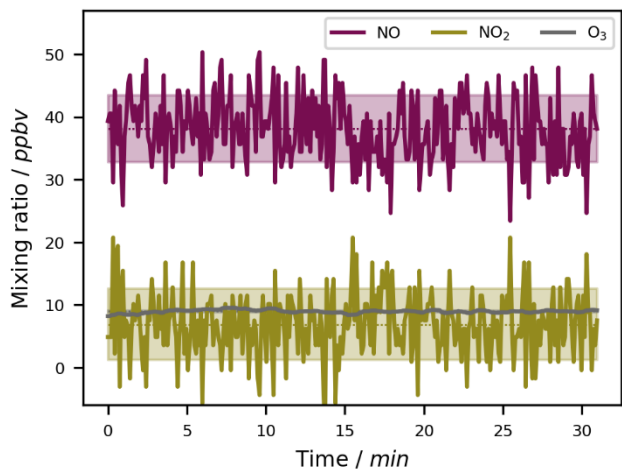


We worked in hydrocarbon-free air to avoid the competitive oxidation of NO by peroxy radicals. During photochemical equilibrium of NO<sub>2</sub>, NO, and O<sub>3</sub>, the photolysis rate of NO<sub>2</sub> ( $J(NO_2)$ , s<sup>-1</sup>) can then be calculated using Eq. (S1):

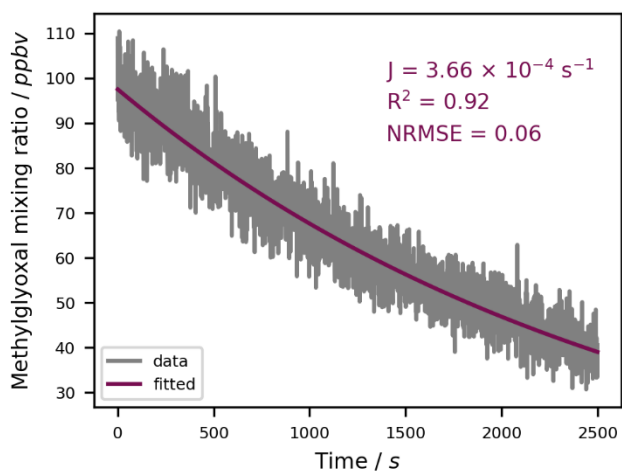
$$J(NO_2) = \frac{k_{NO+O_3}[NO][O_3]}{[NO_2]} \quad (S1)$$

where  $k_{NO+O_3} = 1.90 \pm 0.31 \times 10^{-14}$  molecules<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> is the rate constant of the reaction of NO and O<sub>3</sub> at  $T = 298$  K (IUPAC, 2024), and  $[NO]$ ,  $[O_3]$ , and  $[NO_2]$  are the concentrations of NO, O<sub>3</sub>, and NO<sub>2</sub> in photostationary state in molecules cm<sup>-3</sup>. Temporal profiles of NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, and O<sub>3</sub> in photochemical equilibrium are provided in Fig. S2. The mean values within this time frame were  $[NO] = 9.38 \pm 1.31 \times 10^{11}$  molecules cm<sup>-3</sup>,  $[NO_2] = 1.70 \pm 1.41 \times 10^{11}$  molecules cm<sup>-3</sup>, and  $[O_3] = 2.20 \pm 0.04 \times 10^{11}$  molecules cm<sup>-3</sup>. The error in the resulting NO<sub>2</sub> photolysis rate was calculated from the propagation of the relative errors of the rate constant  $k$ , and the concentrations  $[NO]$ ,  $[NO_2]$ , and  $[O_3]$ . It was affected mainly by the high uncertainty in the NO<sub>2</sub> quantification. We derived a value of  $J = 2.32 \pm 1.99 \times 10^{-2}$  s<sup>-1</sup> for the NO<sub>2</sub> photolysis rate.

For methylglyoxal, we fitted the wall-loss-corrected decay in the irradiated chamber (Fig. S3). The error in the resulting photolysis rate was calculated from the propagation of the NRMSE of the exponential regression (0.06) and the uncertainty of the assumed wall loss rate (0.14). We derived a value of  $J = 3.66 \pm 0.56 \times 10^{-4}$  s<sup>-1</sup> for the methylglyoxal photolysis rate.



**Figure S2: Temporal profiles of NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, and O<sub>3</sub> in photostationary state in the BATCH Teflon chamber.** The mean values within this time frame were used for the calculation of the NO<sub>2</sub> photolysis rate.



**Figure S3: Empirical determination of the methylglyoxal photolysis rate in the BATCH Teflon chamber.** The data were obtained on a second resolution over a time frame of roughly 40 minutes. Prior to fitting, the data were corrected for the determined wall loss rate.

## **S2 Materials**

### **S2.1 Chemicals**

The derivatization reagents PFBHA and MSTFA and the catalyst TMCS, as well as the internal standards phenol-d<sub>6</sub> and acetophenone-d<sub>8</sub> were supplied by Sigma Aldrich / Merck (Darmstadt, Germany). Acetonitrile (Roth, Karlsruhe, Germany) and ultrapure water (0.055  $\mu\text{S cm}^{-1}$ ) were used as solvents.

The following oxidation products were purchased as authentic standards: *o*-cresol, *m*-cresol, *p*-cresol, benzyl alcohol, *o*-nitrotoluene, *m*-nitrotoluene, *p*-nitrotoluene, (nitromethyl)benzene, benzoic acid, *p*-methylcatechol, glycolaldehyde, 6-nitro-*m*-cresol, benzaldehyde, 40% glyoxal (aq), 40% methylglyoxal (aq), *p*-hydroxybenzaldehyde, acetaldehyde, acetic acid, acetone, formaldehyde, glyoxylic acid, oxalic acid, succinic acid, *p*-toluquinone (Sigma Aldrich / Merck, Darmstadt, Germany), 2-nitro-*p*-cresol, 4-nitro-*m*-cresol, dimethylglyoxal (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Schwerte, Germany), glutaric acid, pyruvic acid (Alfa Aesar, Karlsruhe, Germany), formic acid (Honeywell Fluka, Offenbach, Germany), and methanol (Roth, Karlsruhe, Germany).

### **S2.2 NO<sub>x</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> Analysers**

A NO<sub>x</sub> analyser based on chemiluminescence detection (Teledyne, T200P) was used to monitor NO and NO<sub>2</sub>. The T200P model is equipped with a high efficiency photolytic converter for NO<sub>2</sub> detection. For the NO<sub>2</sub> actinometric experiments, we used a CLD 700 AL (ECO PHYSICS). To observe the formation of O<sub>3</sub>, a UV photometric O<sub>3</sub> analyser (Thermo Scientific, 49i) was available. All instruments were calibrated using a dilution calibrator and gas-phase titration (Teledyne, T750U). From the performed calibrations, we derived average noises in the signals of 5.34 ppbv (CLD measurement) and 0.16 ppbv (Blue Light Converter measurement) for NO, 5.73 ppbv (CLD measurement) and 0.12 ppbv (Blue Light Converter measurement) for NO<sub>2</sub>, and 0.18 ppbv for O<sub>3</sub>.

## **S3 SPME-GC-MS Analysis**

### **S3.1 Instrumental Settings**

**Table S2: GC and MS parameters.** Used in this configuration for all tests and experiments conducted in this study.

Step	Parameter
GC inlet	Temperature: 250 °C Liner: RESTEK, Topaz, single taper with wool, 23303 Injection: splitless
GC column	Type: Agilent, HP-5MS, 30 m×0.25 mm×0.25 µm, 19091S-433 Carrier gas: Helium Constant flow: 1.5 sccm
GC oven	Initial temperature: 45 °C, hold 0.1 min Ramp 1: 20 °C min <sup>-1</sup> to 80 °C, hold 2 min Ramp 2: 12 °C min <sup>-1</sup> to 240 °C Ramp 3: 100 °C min <sup>-1</sup> to 280 °C, hold 3 min
MS settings	Transfer line temperature: 280 °C Source temperature: 230 °C Quadrupole temperature: 150 °C Ionization: EI, 70 eV Scan mode: m/z 40 – m/z 550, threshold 10, 1562 u s <sup>-1</sup> SIM mode <sup>(a)</sup> : 3 time segments, dwell times 800 – 900 ms

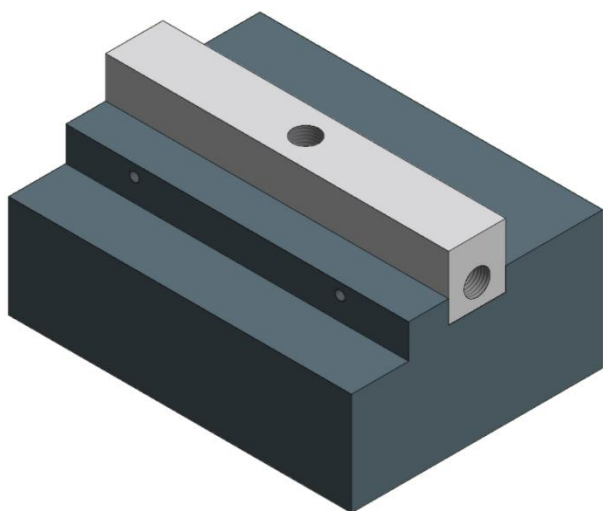
<sup>(a)</sup> See Table 1 in main text.

**Table S3: List of steps in each SPME-GC-MS sampling cycle in chronological order.** The double derivatization scheme with the optimized reagent preparation and extraction parameters was adapted from Borrás et al. (2021).

SPME fibre	Instrument
	PFBHA headspace generation (Agitator: 50 °C, 500 rpm, 3 min)
PFBHA extraction (4 min)	
Sample extraction (5 min, 5 SLPM)	MSTFA/TMCS headspace generation (Agitator: 50 °C, 500 rpm, 3 min)
MSTFA/TMCS extraction (3 min)	
Desorption into GC inlet (250 °C, 40 mm depth, 10 min)	GC-MS run
Fibre conditioning in N <sub>2</sub> (240 °C, 10 min)	(20.5 min)

### **S3.2 Sampling Cell**

The sampling cell consisted of a 126×28×25 mm PTFE block which was held in place by a polyvinylchloride (PVC) body that fitted tightly in the SPME-GC-MS sample tray. A circular hole (9 mm diameter) was drilled through the entire length of the PTFE block to guide the flow of air. The material and the enforced flow profile were designed to reduce species conversions and wall losses. Another hole was drilled from the top so that it connected with the main tunnel. It was sealed with a septum (Supelco, PTFE/silicone, 1.5 mm thickness, 27511) and used as needle guide for the SPME system. During on-line analysis, the fibre coating was placed directly in the sample flow path (penetration depth of 47.5 mm) for maximum extraction efficiency. A technical drawing of the sampling cell is shown in Fig. S4.

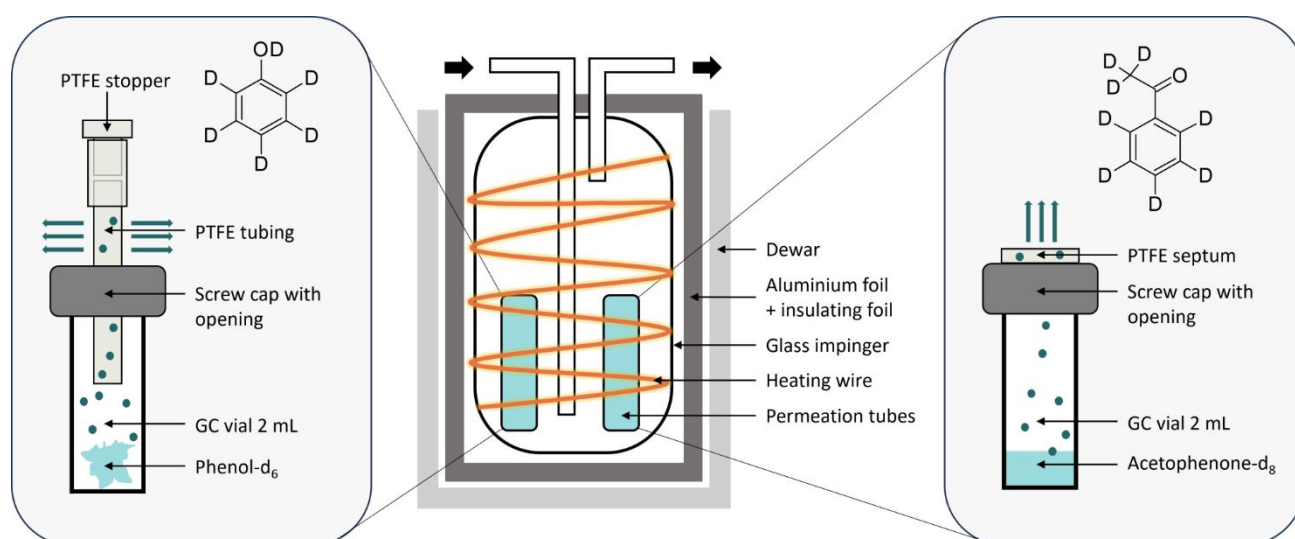


**Figure S4: Technical drawing of the sampling cell as illustrated and used for construction by the workshop of the University of Bayreuth.** The dark grey area is the PVC body, while the light grey area is the PTFE flow guide. The PTFE part has ¼'' NPT fittings on each side as well as on the top, the latter of which is used to guide the SPME needle into the flow of sample air.



### S3.3 Internal Standards

The addition of the ISTDs into the transfer line flow towards the SPME-GC-MS sampling cell was facilitated by means of a customized permeation source (Fig. S5). Permeation sources, in which the pure analyte is slowly released through a permeable layer, are known to supply low concentrations of gases in a constant manner over time if the temperature and flows are carefully controlled (Mitchell, 2000; Namies'nik, 1984; Thorenz et al., 2012). Here, a separate permeation tube was constructed for each ISTD by placing the pure substance in a 2 mL glass vial with open screw cap. For the more volatile acetophenone- $d_8$ , a virginial PTFE septum (thickness: 0.5 mm) was inserted directly in the screw cap (opening 6 mm in diameter). For phenol- $d_6$ , a much larger permeable area was created by placing a 6.5 cm long PTFE tube (outer diameter = 6 mm, inner diameter: 4 mm) tightly through the screw cap and sealing the upper end with a solid PTFE stopper. Both permeation tubes were placed in a 250 mL glass impinger which was continuously flushed with 200 sccm  $N_2$ . The outflow was directed either into the main transfer line (for analysis) or into the fume hood (inactive periods). For controlling the temperature, the impinger was wrapped with electric heating wire, insulated rigorously, and placed in a dewar. The voltage of the heating wire was adjusted to achieve a response of the ISTDs similar to the response of the analytes, resulting in about 40 °C in the impinger.



**Figure S5: Permeation system for on-line internal standard addition.** Customized permeation tubes were designed for phenol- $d_6$  and acetophenone- $d_8$ . Phenol- $d_6$  permeated through a PTFE tube (wall thickness 1 mm, 6.5 cm long), while acetophenone- $d_8$  permeated through a PTFE septum in the open screw cap (thickness 0.5 mm, 6 mm diameter). Both permeation tubes were kept at a constant temperature in an insulated impinger ( $T = 40$  °C) and added with a constant flow of  $N_2$  (200 sccm). Dimensions are not to scale.

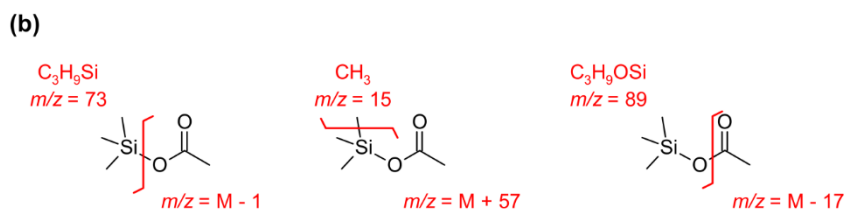
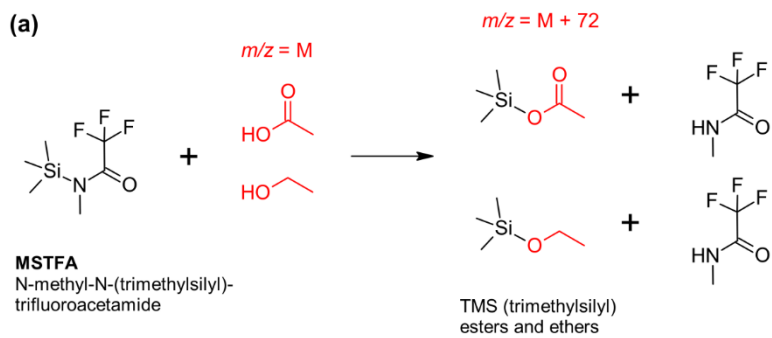
### S3.4 Derivatization

The silylation of alcohols and carboxylic acids with MSTFA and the typical fragments in the EI spectrum are shown in Fig. S6. Derivatization with MSTFA causes a mass-shift of the analyte to  $m/z = M+72$ , due to the addition of the trimethylsilyl (TMS) group with mass 73, and the abstraction of one H atom. Typical losses of TMS adducts upon EI fragmentation include the TMS group  $\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_3$  ( $m/z = 73$ ),  $\text{CH}_3$  ( $m/z = 15$ ), and  $\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{O}$  (TMS-O,  $m/z = 89$ ). The remaining molecular ions have masses of  $m/z = M-1$ ,  $m/z = M+57$ , and  $m/z = M-17$ , respectively (Borrás et al., 2021; Jaoui et al., 2004; Lai and Fiehn, 2018; Šepič and Leskovšek, 1999). The TMS ion is often the base ion with the strongest response.

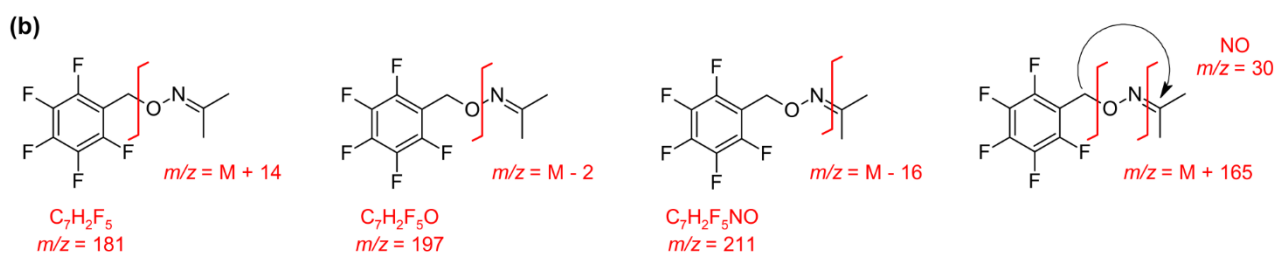
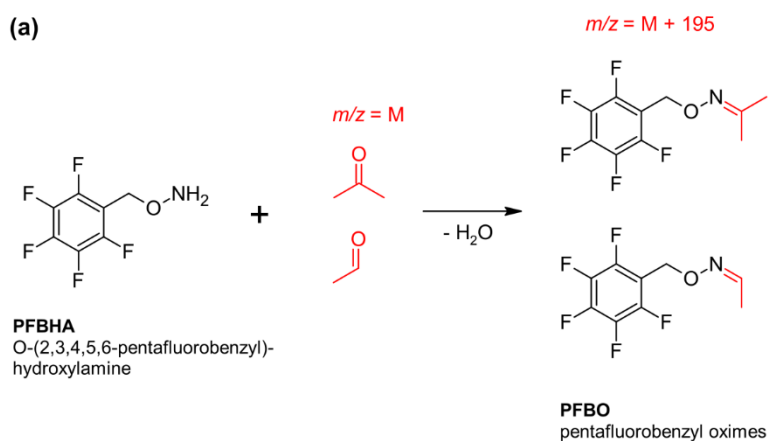
The formation of oximes from ketones and aldehydes with PFBHA and the typical fragments in the EI spectrum are shown in Fig. S7. An intact mono-derivative after reaction with PFBHA will shift to  $m/z = M+195$  (addition of PFBHA with mass 213, and loss of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  with mass 18). EI fragmentation produces a range of PFBHA-specific ions. Typically, a strong signal is observed for  $m/z = 181$ , resulting from cleavage of the C-O bond. The counterpart of this fragment has a mass of  $m/z = M+14$  compared to the original compound. Other fragmentation mechanisms include O-N cleavage, N-C cleavage, and loss of NO, resulting in fragment ions of  $m/z = 197$  and  $m/z = M-2$ ,  $m/z = 211$  and  $m/z = M-16$ , as well as  $m/z = 30$  and  $m/z = M+165$  respectively (Borrás et al., 2021; Šepič and Leskovšek, 1999). Compounds with multiple carbonyl functional groups can be derivatized multiple times. Given that the side chains of the central carbon atom differ from each other, PFBOs typically exist as geometric cis and trans isomers due to the C=N double bond of the oxime (Borrás et al., 2021; Jang and Kamens, 1999). The chromatogram therefore contains  $2^x$  peaks, where x is the number of stereocentres as induced either by the derivatization process or the molecular structure itself.

**Table S4: Number and selection of chromatographic peaks, and mass shifts of the compounds monitored by SPME-GC-MS.** The mass shift was calculated as the difference of the evaluated SIM ions compared to the molecular weight. If no further explanation is given, the mass shift represents a typical fragment of the derivatization procedure (see Fig. S6 and S7).

Compound	Peaks (selected)	MW / g mol <sup>-1</sup>	SIM / m/z	Mass shift	Note
PHE-d <sub>6</sub>	1	100.15	156.1	M+56	As the TMS replaces a D atom and not a H atom, the mass shift after derivatization is only +71
OCR	1	108.14	165.1	M+57	
MCR	1	108.14	165.1	M+57	
PCR	1	108.14	165.1	M+57	
BOH	1	108.14	135.1	M+27	Loss of all three methyl groups from the TMS group
ONT	1	137.14	91.1	[no derivatization]	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> fragment from loss of NO <sub>2</sub>
NMB	1	137.14	91.1	[no derivatization]	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> fragment from loss of NO <sub>2</sub>
MNT	1	137.14	137.1	[no derivatization]	
BAC	1	122.12	179.1	M+57	
PMC	1	124.13	268.1	M+72+72	
GAL	2 (1+2)	60.05	312.1	M+195+57	Both derivatization steps; Peaks overlap, hence evaluated as sum
NCR	1	153.14	210.1	M+57	
PAC	1	88.06	340.1	M+195+57	Both derivatization steps
APH-d <sub>8</sub>	2 (1)	128.20	323.1	M+195	
BAL	2 (1)	106.12	301.1	M+195	
GLY	2 (1)	58.04	448.1	M+195+195	
MGL	4 (3)	72.06	265.1	M+193	Both carbonyl groups derivatized, one undergoes O-N scission (-2)
PHB	2 (2)	122.12	389.1	M+195+72	Both derivatization steps



**Figure S6: Derivatization mechanism of hydroxy and carboxylic groups and subsequent fragmentation patterns. (a)** Derivatization of carboxylic acids (top) and alcohols (bottom) by reaction with MSTFA. **(b)** Typical fragments of TMS adducts after electron ionization.



**Figure S7: Derivatization mechanism of carbonyls and subsequent fragmentation patterns. (a)** Derivatization of ketones (top) and aldehydes (bottom) by reaction with PFBHA. **(b)** Typical PFBO fragments after electron ionization.

## S4 PTR-ToF-MS Analysis

**Table S5: Measurement of toluene, its calibrated photooxidation products, and the internal standards with the PTR-ToF-MS.** The primary ion was H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> in all cases. For all compounds, the sum formula, non-ionized mass, mass after proton transfer, and selected peak are listed. The internal standards were only monitored in a separate measurement to evaluate the stability of the permeation source.

Compound(s)	Sum formula	MW / g mol <sup>-1</sup>	Protonated mass / m/z	Selected peak / m/z
Glyoxal	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	58.04	59.01	59.0041
Methylglyoxal	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	72.06	73.03	73.0243
Toluene, <sup>13</sup> C isotope	<sup>13</sup> CC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	93.13	94.07	94.0716
Benzaldehyde	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O	106.12	107.05	107.0470
Cresol isomers + Benzyl alcohol	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O	108.14	109.06	109.0626
Phenol-d <sub>6</sub> <sup>(a)</sup>	C <sub>6</sub> D <sub>6</sub> O	100.15	101.09	100.0795 <sup>(b)</sup>
Acetophenone-d <sub>8</sub> <sup>(a)</sup>	C <sub>8</sub> D <sub>8</sub> O	128.20	129.12	129.1172

<sup>(a)</sup> Internal standard: not monitored during experiments, not calibrated.

<sup>(b)</sup> The mass m/z -1 had a higher sensitivity than the protonated mass because of hydrogen-deuterium-exchange.

**Table S6: Calibration factors, errors, and LODs for the compounds calibrated for the PTR-ToF-MS.** The uncertainty of the slope is derived from the standard error of the slope with a 95% confidence interval. The instrumental error (Instr. Err.) is the mean RSD of all calibration levels. The quantification error (Quant. Err.) includes the instrumental error, the calibration error, and the experimental error. All errors are relative. For the cresol isomers, we derived a weighted sensitivity by multiplying the recorded sensitivity with the relative abundance as determined by SPME-GC-MS (0.74 for *o*-cresol, 0.04 for *m*-cresol, and 0.22 for *p*-cresol). The weighted calibration factor for the sum signal was obtained from the sum of these weighted isomer-specific sensitivities. When evaluating individual cresol isomers, we adopted the error and LOD of the weighted sum of the isomers.

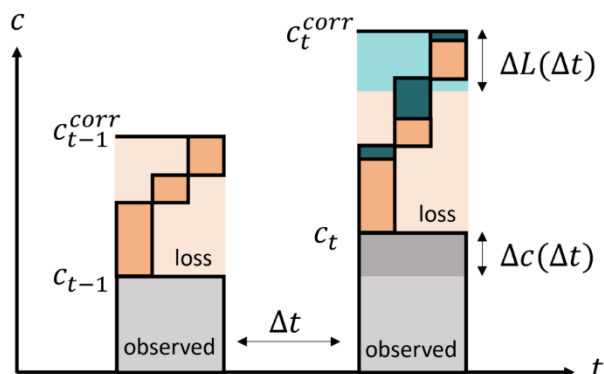
Compound(s)	Slope / ncps ppbv <sup>-1</sup>	Instr. Err. / %	Quant. Err. / %	LOD / pptv
Glyoxal	0.04±0.22	89	91	1827.8
Methylglyoxal	14.42±2.07	2	21	4.8
Benzaldehyde	30.82±2.01	1	21	0.5
Cresol isomers (averaged)	27.61±1.57	1	21	1.1
Cresol isomers (weighted)	31.78±1.27	1	21	0.9
<i>o</i> -Cresol (single / weighted)	37.37±1.29 / 27.65±0.95			
<i>m</i> -Cresol (single / weighted)	32.64±1.26 / 1.31±0.05			
<i>p</i> -Cresol (single / weighted)	12.82±1.23 / 2.82±0.27			
Benzyl alcohol	0.00 <sup>(a)</sup>			
Glyoxal fragment, m/z 31.0145 <sup>(b)</sup>	2.45±1.44			
Benzyl alcohol fragment, m/z 91.0522 <sup>(b)</sup>	29.24±2.20			

<sup>(a)</sup> No signal on m/z 109.0626 – regression resulted in slightly negative slope, therefore set to zero.

<sup>(b)</sup> Listed here only as information for the reader.

## S5 Loss Corrections

### S5.1 Correction Principle



**Figure S8: Implementation of the loss corrections.** For a given data point, the loss-corrected concentration is calculated as the sum of the loss-corrected concentration of the previous data point, the measured change in concentration, and the absolute loss over that time period. This is equivalent to the measured concentration at that point in time plus the cumulative loss since the beginning of the experiment.

### S5.2 Rate Constants for Reactions with OH Radicals

**Table S7: Second order rate constants of the reactions of the measured photooxidation products with OH radicals at T = 298 K.** Whenever available, IUPAC-recommended values were selected. Here, approximate pseudo first order rate constants ( $k'$ ) are given as information for the reader to compare the order of magnitude against wall losses and photolysis rates. These rates were calculated with  $[\text{OH}] = 4.89 \times 10^6 \text{ molecules cm}^{-3}$  (mean value in experiments at  $T = 298 \pm 1 \text{ K}$  in absence of  $\text{NO}_x$ ). For the actual implementation of the loss corrections, experiment- and time-specific OH radical concentrations were considered. OH radical concentrations were obtained by evaluating the loss of toluene. The uncertainty of the pseudo first order rate constants is 19 %.

Compound	$k(\text{OH}) / \text{molecules}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$	Note	$k' / \text{s}^{-1}$
OCR	$4.1 \times 10^{-11}$ (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup>		$2.01 \pm 0.38 \times 10^{-4}$
MCR	$5.9 \times 10^{-11}$ (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup>		$2.89 \pm 0.55 \times 10^{-4}$
PCR	$4.9 \times 10^{-11}$ (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup>		$2.40 \pm 0.46 \times 10^{-4}$
BOH	$2.7 \times 10^{-11}$ (Harrison and Wells, 2009) <sup>(a)</sup>		$1.32 \pm 0.25 \times 10^{-4}$
ONT	$1.22 \times 10^{-12}$	MNT value	$5.97 \pm 1.13 \times 10^{-6}$
NMB	$1.22 \times 10^{-12}$	MNT value	$5.97 \pm 1.13 \times 10^{-6}$
MNT	$1.22 \times 10^{-12}$ (Atkinson et al., 1989) <sup>(a)</sup>		$5.97 \pm 1.13 \times 10^{-6}$
BAC	$1.28 \times 10^{-10}$ (Wu et al., 2017)		$6.27 \pm 1.19 \times 10^{-4}$
PMC	$1.5 \times 10^{-10}$ (Olariu et al., 2000) <sup>(a)</sup>		$7.34 \pm 1.39 \times 10^{-4}$
GAL	$8 \times 10^{-12}$ (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup>		$3.92 \pm 0.74 \times 10^{-5}$
NCR	$5.15 \times 10^{-12}$	Mean of 2-nitro- <i>p</i> -cresol and 6-nitro- <i>m</i> -cresol, both (Bejan et al., 2007) <sup>(a)</sup>	$2.52 \pm 0.48 \times 10^{-5}$
PAC	$1.2 \times 10^{-13}$ (Mellouki and Mu, 2003)		$5.87 \pm 1.12 \times 10^{-7}$
BAL	$1.26 \times 10^{-11}$ (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup>		$6.17 \pm 1.17 \times 10^{-5}$
GLY	$9.7 \times 10^{-12}$ (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup>		$4.75 \pm 0.90 \times 10^{-5}$
MGL	$1.3 \times 10^{-11}$ (IUPAC, 2024) <sup>(a)</sup>		$6.36 \pm 1.21 \times 10^{-5}$
PHB	$1.13 \times 10^{-10}$ (US EPA, 2024)	Estimated using EPISUITE AopWinv1.92	$5.53 \pm 1.05 \times 10^{-4}$

<sup>(a)</sup> IUPAC recommendation.

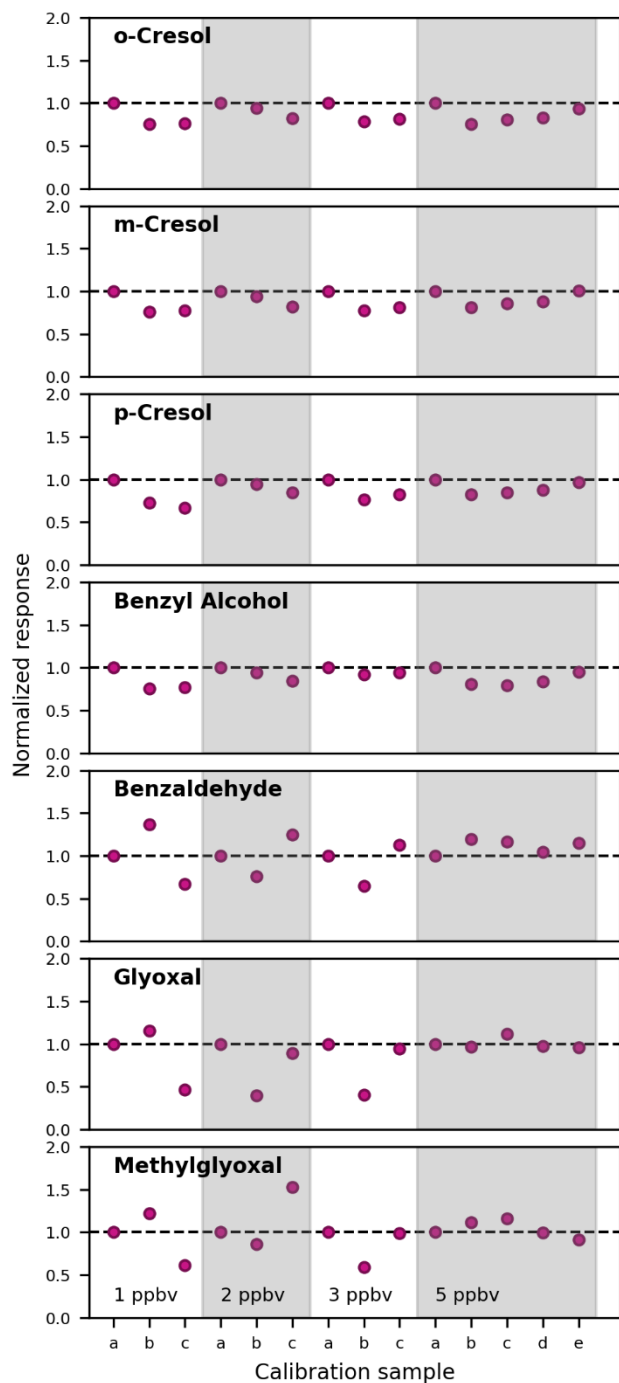
### S5.3 Wall Losses

**Table S8: Empirical and fitted wall loss rates of the measured photooxidation products in the BATCH Teflon chamber.** The uncertainty of the empirical wall loss rates was derived from the NRMSEs of the individual exponential regressions. The uncertainty of the fitted wall loss rates was calculated according to the 14 % error of the parameterization. The relative change (RC) from the empirical (EMP) to the fitted (FIT) rate was calculated as  $RC = (FIT - EMP)/EMP$ . The values for the compound groups are given as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation of all compounds belonging to this group.

Compound	Group	Wall loss empirical			Wall loss fitted	
		Loss rate / s <sup>-1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	Uncertainty / %	Loss rate / s <sup>-1</sup>	RC / %
OCR	(a)	3.44±0.93×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.57	27	3.43±0.48×10 <sup>-5</sup>	±0
MCR	(a)	3.39±0.81×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.65	24	4.03±0.56×10 <sup>-5</sup>	+19
PCR	(a)	4.11±0.77×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.76	19	4.26±0.60×10 <sup>-5</sup>	+4
BOH	(a)	4.45±0.92×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.73	21	4.43±0.62×10 <sup>-5</sup>	±0
ONT	(b)	1.47±0.11×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.96	8	-	-
NMB	(b)	2.01±0.23×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.91	11	-	-
MNT	(b)	2.24±0.31×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.88	14	-	-
BAC	(c)	7.10±1.14×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.82	16	6.40±0.90×10 <sup>-5</sup>	-10
PMC	(c)	8.49±1.20×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.86	14	6.05±0.85×10 <sup>-5</sup>	-29
GAL	(d)	4.20±0.90×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.70	21	5.43±0.76×10 <sup>-5</sup>	+29
NCR	(e)	6.58±1.04×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.83	16	6.44±0.90×10 <sup>-5</sup>	-2
PAC	(d)	5.14±0.87×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.78	17	5.04±0.71×10 <sup>-5</sup>	-2
BAL	(f)	4.54±1.80×10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.07	40	1.49±0.21×10 <sup>-5</sup>	+229
GLY	(f)	1.33±0.38×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.45	28	1.43±0.20×10 <sup>-5</sup>	+7
MGL	(f)	1.96±0.63×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.35	32	7.82±1.09×10 <sup>-6</sup>	-60
PHB	(c)	8.53±0.68×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.95	8	6.24±0.87×10 <sup>-5</sup>	-27
(a) Monohydric aromatic alcohols					4.04±0.38×10 <sup>-5</sup>	
(b) Nitro compounds		1.90±0.32×10 <sup>-5</sup>				
(c) Aromatic acids and multifunctional					6.23±0.14×10 <sup>-5</sup>	
(d) Aliphatic multifunctional					5.23±0.19×10 <sup>-5</sup>	
(e) Nitro compounds with OH group					6.44×10 <sup>-5</sup>	
(f) Carbonyls and dicarbonyls					1.23±0.32×10 <sup>-5</sup>	

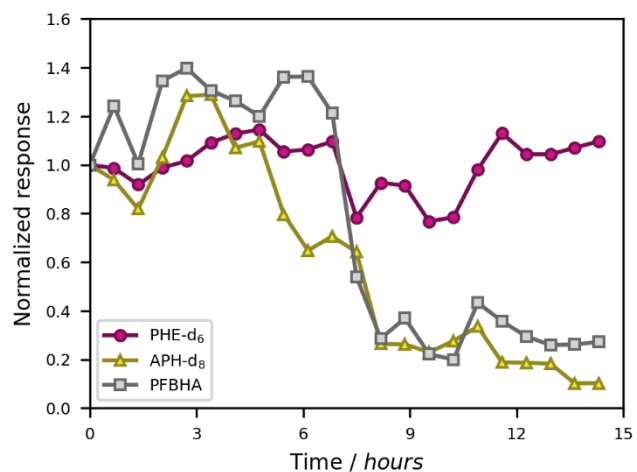
## S6 SPME-GC-MS Method Evaluation

### S6.1 Inter-Sample Variability



**Figure S9: Inter-sample variability of the cresols, benzyl alcohol, benzaldehyde, glyoxal, and methylglyoxal at the SPME-GC-MS.** The data are shown for the on-line calibration samples, and normalized within each calibration level. The calibration levels were calculated as concentrations, but are shown here as mixing ratios for simplicity. The depicted data include corrections for internal standard responses, blanks, and wall losses. Note that before each calibration level, the chamber was cleaned, and blanks were recorded (not shown here). The calibration levels at 0 ppbv and 0.5 ppbv are not shown here because of the substantial variability at low concentrations.

## S6.2 Derivatization Reagents and Internal Standards



**Figure S10: SPME-GC-MS data of the ISTD permeation source outflow mixed with zero air over a time frame of 15 hours.** Time series of the two ISTDs (phenol-d<sub>6</sub> = PHE-d<sub>6</sub>, and acetophenone-d<sub>8</sub> = APH-d<sub>8</sub>) and PFBHA as the carbonyl reagent are shown. Responses were normalized to the respective start value for scalability. The silylants MSTFA and TMCS were not monitored to avoid stress on the MS detector.



### **S6.3 Method Limitations**

For the purpose of characterizing the BATCH Teflon chamber, we focused on the compounds with the best sensitivity and suitability for the on-line analysis with our setup. The compounds which we excluded after initial testing are listed in Table S9. We observed the following limitations:

Firstly, we excluded small compounds with  $MW < 50 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$  (acetaldehyde, formaldehyde, formic acid, and methanol) from our method due to low sensitivity. This is in agreement with the study by Gómez Alvarez and Valcárcel (2009), where the response of formaldehyde and acetaldehyde was lower than that of benzaldehyde. Generally, PDMS/DVB fibres are designed for molecular weights in the range of  $MW = 50 - 300 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$  (manufacturer specification), explaining this observation.

Secondly, most tested carboxylic acids (acetic acid, formic acid, glutaric acid, glyoxylic acid, oxalic acid, succinic acid) could only be detected at elevated sampling temperature of  $85 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  due to their low volatility. This was shown by offline measurements of heated vials containing a calibration standard. Meanwhile, benzoic acid and pyruvic acid could be calibrated for on-line analysis reasonably well, possibly due to their aromaticity and additional keto group, respectively. Similar to sticky compounds such as glyoxal (see main text), we acknowledge that the on-line analysis of low-volatility compounds in the chamber could be enhanced by a different material, length, and temperature of the transfer line, and a non-interrupted flow.

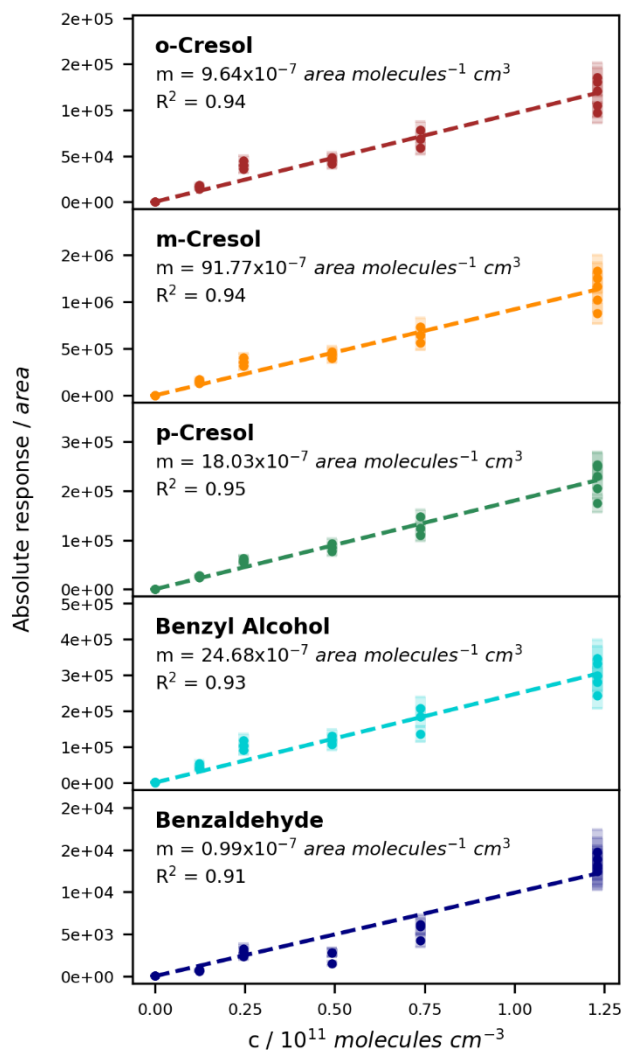
Thirdly, we observed low sensitivities and poor transportation from the chamber to the instrument for ketones. This is in line with the lower affinity of ketones to PFBHA compared to aldehydes (Jang and Kamens, 1999), and additionally suggests a substantial stickiness of these compounds. We excluded non-aromatic compounds with only keto functional groups (acetone, dimethylglyoxal). For the aromatic ketones, we could use acetophenone- $d_8$  as an internal standard but excluded *p*-toluquinone. The analysis of acetophenone- $d_8$  profited from the fact that it was added constantly and could therefore equilibrate well, and that we specifically designed the permeation source to release enough mass for a good instrumental response (nevertheless, the variability of acetophenone- $d_8$  was higher than for phenol- $d_6$ , see main text). Furthermore, the direct addition of keto groups to the aromatic ring may induce steric hindrance and thereby inhibit an effective PFBHA derivatization. All tested aromatic compounds with carbonyl groups detached from the ring or with hydroxy/carboxylic groups were successfully optimized for on-line analysis.

**Table S9: List of all tested compounds which were not included in the final SPME-GC-MS method due to methodological limitations.** The retention time (RT), number of peaks and selected peak, and molecular weight (MW) are given for each compound. The functional groups amenable to oxime formation (PFBHA derivatization) or silylation (MSTFA/TMCS derivatization) are denoted as aldehydes (CHO), ketones (C=O), alcohols (OH), and carboxylic acids (COOH). The selected ion monitoring (SIM) masses were selected to represent abundant masses resulting from mass shifts and fragmentations which are typical for the respective derivatization process (see Sect. S3.4). For 4-nitro-*m*-cresol and *p*-nitrotoluene, the on-line calibration could be performed successfully, however the noise exceeded the signal during the photooxidation experiments, so that these compounds were not evaluated.

Compound	RT / min	Peaks (selected)	MW / g mol <sup>-1</sup>	Oxime formation	Silylation	SIM / m/z	Mass shift	Methodological difficulty
Acetaldehyde	6.57	2 (1)	44.10	1 × CHO	-	209.1	M+165	Low sensitivity
Acetic acid	-	-	60.06	-	1 × COOH	-	-	No response
Acetone	6.77	1	58.08	1 × C=O	-	223.1	M+165	Low sensitivity
Dimethylglyoxal	9.76	1	86.09	2 × C=O	-	281.1	M+195	Not detected in on-line calibration
Formaldehyde	5.09	1	30.03	1 × CHO	-	195.0	M+165	Low sensitivity
Formic acid	-	-	46.03	-	1 × COOH	-	-	No response
Glutaric acid	10.60	1	132.12	-	2 × COOH	261.1	M+72+57	Requires high temperature
Glyoxylic acid	11.4	1	74.04	1 × CHO	1 × COOH	326.1	M+195+57	Requires high temperature
Methanol	-	-	32.04	-	1 × OH	-	-	No response
Oxalic acid	7.112	1	90.04	-	2 × COOH	147.1	[fragment] <sup>(a)</sup>	Requires high temperature
Succinic acid	9.50	1	118.09	-	2 × COOH	147.1	[fragment] <sup>(a)</sup>	Requires high temperature
<i>p</i> -Toluquinone	14.46	2 (1)	122.12	2 × C=O	-	317.1	M+195	Not detected in on-line calibration
4-Nitro- <i>m</i> -cresol	12.22	1	153.14	-	1 × OH	210.1	M+57	Noise higher than signal
<i>p</i> -Nitrotoluene	8.20	1	137.14	-	-	137.1	[no derivatization]	Noise higher than signal

<sup>(a)</sup> The ion *m/z* 147 is a typical fragment of silylated dicarboxylic acids (Pindado Jiménez et al., 2013).

## S6.4 Calibration Curves without ISTD Correction



**Figure S11: Calibration curves for the ring-retaining first generation products of toluene without the ISTD correction.** The absolute responses are plotted against the concentration in the chamber. Uncertainty areas represent the instrumental error.

## S7 Error and Validity of Loss Corrections

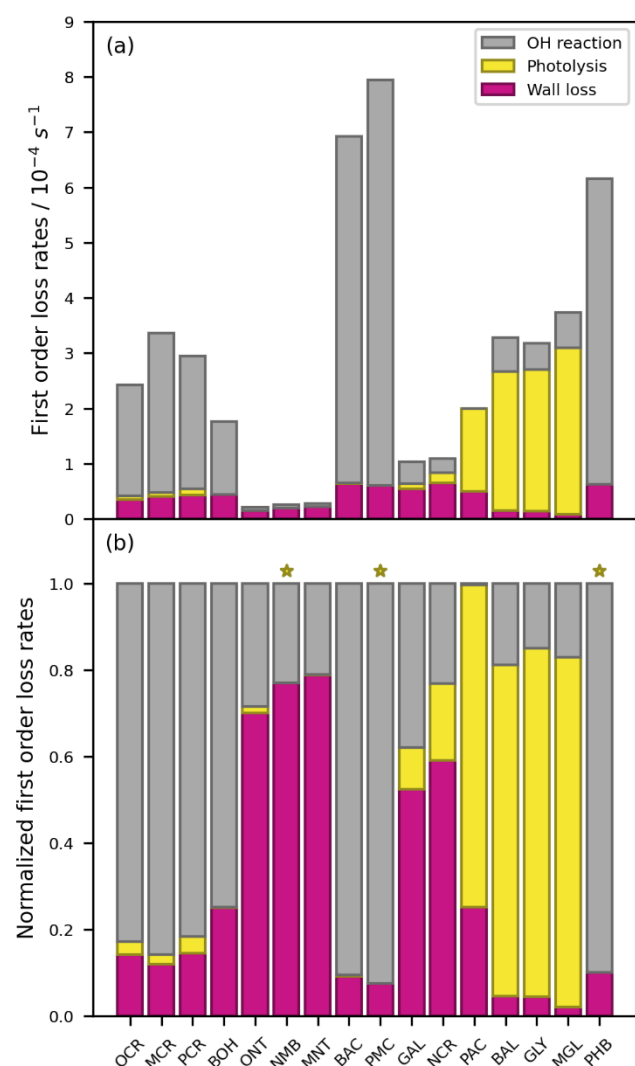
In order to obtain a weighted error for the loss-corrected data, we first calculated the absolute error of each loss process for each data point and compound. To do so, we considered the absolute loss, the error of the loss process, and the quantification error of the measured concentration. We then added the absolute errors of the non-corrected concentrations and the three losses to get a sum absolute error. This error was divided by the loss-corrected concentration to get a relative value.

The variability, minima and maxima, and mean values of these relative errors of the loss-corrected concentrations are listed for all compounds measured by SPME-GC-MS in Table S10. The data were collected from all 18 experiments, including temperature and NO<sub>x</sub> variations. The mean relative errors of the loss-corrected concentrations were between 1 % (*o*-nitrotoluene) and 20 % (*p*-methylcatechol) higher than the errors of their non-corrected concentrations. Due to the added sources of uncertainty, we observed an increase of the relative error of the loss-corrected concentrations over the course of the experiment. Still, the variability of the relative error both across all the data and between the experimental means remained below 10 % for all compounds except *p*-methylcatechol which reacts fastest with OH radicals (Table S7). Benzoic acid has a similar rate constant for reaction with OH radicals but has a higher instrumental error that dominates the overall quantification error.

**Table S10: Relative errors of the loss-corrected concentrations of the SPME-GC-MS data.** The mean relative error and its increase compared to the quantification error of the non-corrected concentrations are given. The range of all individual relative errors across all 18 experiments as well as their variability are listed, along with the range and variability of the experimental mean values.

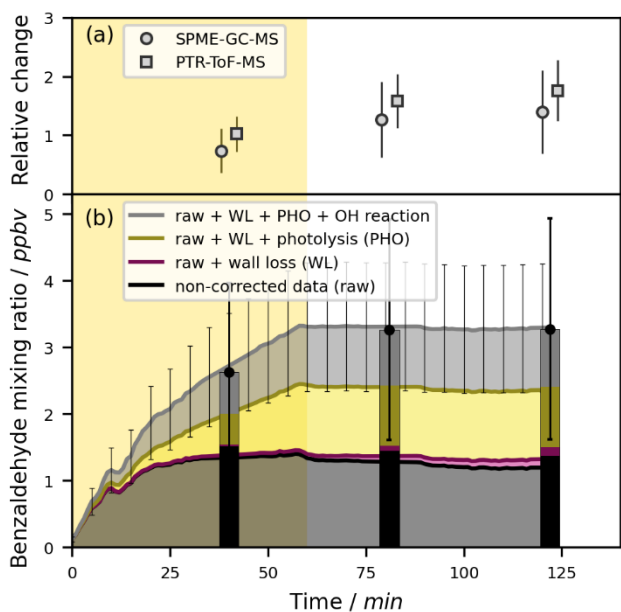
Compound	Loss-corrected error		All values		Experimental means	
	Mean value / %	Increase / %	Range / %	Variability / %	Range / %	Variability / %
OCR	26	10	24 – 29	4	25 – 28	4
MCR	27	12	24 – 29	4	25 – 29	4
PCR	27	11	25 – 29	4	26 – 29	3
BOH	25	8	23 – 27	3	24 – 27	3
ONT	22	1	21 – 23	1	22 – 23	1
NMB	22	3	18 – 34	8	20 – 26	6
MNT	22	2	14 – 23	5	20 – 22	3
BAC	40	7	38 – 47	3	38 – 41	2
PMC	30	20	26 – 103	32	27 – 46	14
GAL	25	5	24 – 29	3	25 – 26	2
NCR	26	5	23 – 30	4	24 – 28	3
PAC	30	18	27 – 40	9	28 – 35	6
BAL	51	9	48 – 56	3	50 – 52	1
GLY	60	6	57 – 64	2	58 – 61	1
MGL	52	10	48 – 58	3	49 – 53	2
PHB	35	8	32 – 38	4	34 – 37	3

The absolute and relative importance of wall losses, photolysis, and OH radical reactions is shown for each of the analysed compounds in Fig. S12.

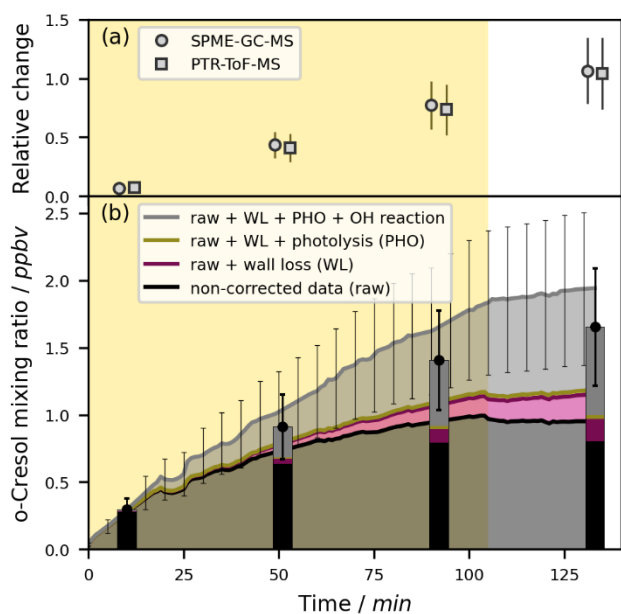


**Figure S12: Loss processes for each of the analysed toluene photooxidation products.** (a) First order loss rates. For the OH radical reactions, we used the mean OH radical concentration of  $[\text{OH}] = 4.89 \times 10^6 \text{ molecules cm}^{-3}$  for obtaining pseudo first order rates. (b) Normalization of the first order loss rates for each individual compound. Note that we could not compile any photolysis rates for (nitromethyl)benzene (NMB), *p*-methylcatechol (PMC), and *p*-hydroxybenzaldehyde (PHB), and assumed zero photolytic loss in these cases (marked with stars). Photolysis is only relevant during chamber irradiation, and the assumed OH radical concentration likewise only applies to the irradiated time period.

In order to evaluate and validate the loss correction procedure at the two instruments, we compared the measured and the loss-corrected data sets obtained by SPME-GC-MS and PTR-ToF-MS. We show this comparison for benzaldehyde as a compound with no known spectral interference and high photolytic losses (Fig. S13), and for *o*-cresol as one of the cresol isomers and a compound with a high reactivity towards OH radicals and a relatively high wall loss rate (Fig. S14). Figures S13 and S14 include not only the time series of the measured data and the individual losses for both instruments (Fig. S13b and S14b), but also the direct comparison of the relative change associated with the loss corrections (Fig. S13a and S14a). This relative change was calculated as the difference between the loss-corrected data and the measured data divided by the measured data, and makes it possible to compare the extent of the loss corrections even in view of slightly different measured initial mixing ratios. The relative changes obtained by the two instruments are in good agreement for both compounds.



**Figure S13:** Measured and loss-corrected mixing ratio of benzaldehyde as obtained by the SPME-GC-MS and the PTR-ToF-MS. The data are shown for an experiment with 25 ppbv initial NO at  $T = 298 \pm 1$  K. (a) The relative change between the measured and fully loss-corrected mixing ratio for each sample. (b) Absolute raw and corrected mixing ratios. Error bars in both panels are the instrumental quantification error.



**Figure S14:** Measured and loss-corrected mixing ratio of *o*-cresol as obtained by the SPME-GC-MS and the PTR-ToF-MS. The data are shown for experiment Tol-OH-6. The mixing ratio of *o*-cresol at the PTR-ToF-MS was calculated from the weighted calibration and the fixed relative abundance of 0.74 for *o*-cresol. (a) The relative change between the measured and fully loss-corrected mixing ratio for each sample. (b) Absolute raw and corrected mixing ratios. Error bars in both panels are the instrumental quantification error.

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