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Journal of Photochemistry Photobiology A:Chemistry

Journal of Photochemistry and Photobiology A: Chemistry 176 (2005) 124-128

www.elsevier.com/locate/jphotochem

# Atmospheric chemistry of $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$ (x=1, 2, 4, 6, and 8): Kinetics of gas-phase reactions with Cl atoms, OH radicals, and O<sub>3</sub>

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Received 29 April 2005; received in revised form 15 June 2005; accepted 16 June 2005 Available online 1 August 2005

#### Abstract

Long-path length FT-IR-smog chamber techniques were used to study the title reactions in 700 Torr of N<sub>2</sub> or N<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>, diluent at 296 K. There was no discernable effect of  $C_xF_{2x+1}$ -group size on the reactivity of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  towards Cl atoms and OH radicals. Values of  $k(Cl+C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2) = (9.07 \pm 1.08) \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3$  molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> and  $k(OH+C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2) = (1.36 \pm 0.25) \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3$  molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> were measured. Ozone reacts more rapidly with CF<sub>3</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub> than with larger members of the series;  $k(O_3 + CF_3CH=CH_2) = (3.5 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^3$  molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> and  $k(O_3 + C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2) = (2.0 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^3$  molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> ( $x \ge 2$ ). The atmospheric lifetime of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  ( $x \ge 2$ ) is approximately 8 days with 90% of removal occurring via reaction with OH and 10% via reaction with O<sub>3</sub>.

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Keywords: Atmospheric chemistry; Fluoroalkenes; Hydroxy radical

# 1. Introduction

Perfluorinated carboxylic acids (PFCAs,  $C_xF_{2x+1}COOH$ , where x = 6-12) have been observed in fish [1,2] and mammals [3] around the world. Long-chain perfluorinated acids have been shown to be bioaccumulative [4,5] and potentially toxic [6–8]. While there are no known natural sources of longchain PFCAs, these compounds have been directly emitted to the environment via industrial processes. Such processes, include use of PFCAs and their salts as processing aids in the polymerization of fluoropolymers and in fire-fighting foams [1,9,10].

The observation of PFCAs in remote regions far from industrial sources and large population centers is puzzling,

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since PFCAs are not expected to be particularly mobile in the environment [11]. Among the direct emission pathways, that might partially account for observed PFCA loadings in the Arctic are the potential transport of PFCAs by marine aerosols [12] and the local use of PFCA containing materials, e.g. the historic use of fire-fighting foams in military installations in the Arctic. In addition, a portion of the observed PFCAs may originate from precursor substances which are transformed by atmospheric oxidation processes: potential PFCA precursors, include perfluorosulfonamide alcohols and fluorotelomer substances, such as fluorotelomer alcohols and olefins [13,14]. The relative contribution of direct sources and precursors to PFCAs identified in remote locations is not known at present.

Fluorotelomer acrylate monomer is a principal raw material used to make fluorotelomer-based polymeric products [15]. When manufactured, the monomer contains

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fluorotelomer alcohols or fluorotelomer olefins as a residual raw material impurity at levels up to a few hundred parts per million by weight. During industrial use, these residual alcohols and olefins are expected to be released to the air. Fluorotelomer alcohols,  $C_x F_{2x+1} CH_2 CH_2 OH$  (x = 6, 8, 10, and 12), have previously been observed in air samples and suggested as a plausible source of PFCAs present in remote locations [16]. Although not so far reported to be found in air samples, atmospheric oxidation of fluorotelomer olefins,  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  (x = 8, 10, and 12) may also be a source of PFCAs. To assess the ability of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  to survive long-range transport and hence contribute to the global PFCA budget, we have conducted a study of the atmospheric chemistry of fluorotelomer olefins. Specifically, we have studied the kinetics of the gas phase reactions of Cl atoms, OH radicals, and O<sub>3</sub> with  $C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2$  (x = 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8). Results are reported herein.

# 2. Experimental

The experiments were performed in a 140 liter Pyrex reactor interfaced to a Mattson Sirus 100 FT-IR spectrometer. The reactor was surrounded by 22 fluorescent blacklamps (GE F15T8-BL) which were used to photochemically initiate the experiments. Chlorine atoms were produced by photolysis of molecular chlorine:

$$Cl_2 + hv \rightarrow Cl + Cl$$
 (1)

OH radicals were produced by photolysis of CH<sub>3</sub>ONO in the presence of NO in air:

 $CH_3ONO + hv \rightarrow CH_3O(\cdot) + NO$  (2)

 $CH_3O(\cdot) + O_2 \rightarrow HO_2 + HCHO$  (3)

$$HO_2 + NO \rightarrow OH + NO_2$$
 (4)

In the relative rate experiments, the following reactions take place:

 $Cl + Reactant \rightarrow products$  (5)

 $Cl + Reference \rightarrow products$  (6)

$$OH + Reactant \rightarrow products$$
 (7)

$$OH + Reference \rightarrow products$$
 (8)

It can be shown that:

$$\ln\left(\frac{[\text{Reactant}]_{t_0}}{[\text{Reactant}]_t}\right) = \frac{k_{\text{Reactant}}}{k_{\text{Reference}}}\ln\left(\frac{[\text{Reference}]_{t_0}}{[\text{Reference}]_t}\right)$$
(9)

where [Reactant]<sub>t0</sub>, [Reactant]<sub>t</sub>, [Reference]<sub>t0</sub>, and [Reference]<sub>t</sub> are the concentrations of reactant and reference at times  $t_0$  and t, and  $k_{\text{Reactant}}$  and  $k_{\text{Reference}}$  are the rate constants for the reactant and the reference. Plots of  $\ln[[\text{Reactant}]_{t0}/[\text{Reactant}]_t)$  versus  $\ln[[\text{Reference}]_{t0}/[\text{Reference}]_t]$ 

have a slope of  $k_{\text{Reactant}}/k_{\text{Reference}}$ . The kinetics of the O<sub>3</sub> reaction were studied using an absolute rate method in which the pseudo first order loss of C<sub>x</sub>F<sub>2x+1</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub> was measured in the presence of excess O<sub>3</sub>.

 $O_3$  was produced from  $O_2$  via silent electrical discharge using a commercial  $O_3$  ozonizer. CH<sub>3</sub>ONO was synthesized by the drop wise addition of concentrated sulfuric acid to a saturated solution of NaNO<sub>2</sub>. Other reagents were obtained from commercial sources. Experiments were conducted in 700 Torr total pressure of N<sub>2</sub>, or N<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> diluent at 296 ± 2 K.

Concentrations of reactants and products were monitored by FT-IR spectroscopy. IR spectra were derived from 32 coadded interferograms with a spectral resolution of  $0.25 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and an analytical path length of 27.1 m. To check for unwanted loss of reactants and reference compounds via heterogeneous reactions, reaction mixtures were left to stand in the chamber for 60 min. There was no observable (<2%) loss of any of the reactants or products in the present work. Unless stated otherwise, quoted uncertainties are 2 S.D. from least squares regressions.

# 3. Results and discussion

3.1. Relative rate study of  $k(Cl + C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2)$ 

The kinetics of reaction (10) were measured relative to those of reactions (11) and (12):

$$Cl + C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2 \rightarrow products$$
 (10)

$$Cl + C_2H_4 \rightarrow \text{ products}$$
 (11)

$$Cl + C_2H_2 \rightarrow \text{ products}$$
 (12)

Reaction mixtures consisted of 7.8–14.7 mTorr of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$ , 82.2–100.4 mTorr of  $Cl_2$ , and either 14.3–30.2 mTorr of  $C_2H_4$ , or 5.4–8.5 mTorr of  $C_2H_2$ , in 700 Torr of air, or N<sub>2</sub>, diluent. The observed loss of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  versus those of the reference compounds is plotted in Fig. 1. As seen in Fig. 1, there was no discernable effect of the size of the  $C_xF_{2x+1}$ -group on reactivity of the  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  molecule. Accordingly, we analyze the entire set of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  together. Linear least squares analysis of the data in Fig. 1 gives  $k_{10}/k_{11} = 0.987 \pm 0.090$ , and  $k_{10}/k_{12} = 1.77 \pm 0.14$ .

Using  $k_{11} = (9.29 \pm 0.51) \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ [17] and  $k_{12} = (5.07 \pm 0.34) \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ [17] gives  $k_{10} = (9.17 \pm 0.98) \times 10^{-11}$  and  $(8.97 \pm 0.93) \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . Indistinguishable values of  $k_{10}$  are obtained using the two different references. We choose to cite a final value which is the average of the individual determinations together with error limits which encompass the extremes of the determinations, hence  $k_{10} = (9.07 \pm 1.08) \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . Vesine et al. [18] have reported  $k(\text{Cl} + \text{C}_4\text{F}_9\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2) = (8.9 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $k(\text{Cl} + \text{C}_6\text{F}_{13}\text{CH}=$ 



Fig. 1. Decay of CF<sub>3</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub> (circles),  $C_2F_5CH$ =CH<sub>2</sub> (inverted triangles),  $C_4F_9CH$ =CH<sub>2</sub> (squares),  $C_6F_{13}CH$ =CH<sub>2</sub> (triangles), and  $C_8F_{17}CH$ =CH<sub>2</sub> (diamonds) vs.  $C_2H_4$  and  $C_2H_2$  in the presence of Cl atoms in 700 Torr of either air (open symbols) or N<sub>2</sub> (filled symbols) at 296 ± 2 K.

 $CH_2$ ) = (9.1 ± 1.0) × 10<sup>-11</sup> cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. The results of the present work are in good agreement with those of Vesine et al. [18]. The reactivity of Cl atoms towards  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  is indistinguishable from that towards  $CH_2=CH_2$  [17] but is approximately a factor of 3 lower than towards  $CH_3CH=CH_2$  [19]. As expected, replacement of the electron donating  $CH_3$ -group by the electron withdrawing  $C_xF_{2x+1}$ -group decreases the rate of electrophilic addition of Cl atoms to the >C=C< double bond. A possible explanation for the similar reactivity of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  and  $CH_2=CH_2$  is that the deactivating influence of the electron withdrawing  $C_xF_{2x+1}$ -group is countered by its stabilizing effect (increased number of degrees of freedom over which to spread the excess energy associated with C–Cl bond formation) in the initially formed Cl adduct.

## 3.2. Relative rate study of $k(OH + C_xF_{2x+1}CH = CH_2)$

The kinetics of reaction (13) were measured relative to reactions (14) and (15):

 $OH + C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2 \rightarrow \text{ products}$ (13)

$$OH + C_2H_4 \rightarrow \text{ products}$$
 (14)

$$OH + C_2H_2 \rightarrow \text{ products}$$
 (15)

Initial reaction mixtures consisted of 14.4-93.0 mTorr of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$ , 0-21 mTorr of NO, 88.3-96.4 mTorr of CH<sub>3</sub>ONO, and 7.6–7.9 mTorr of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> or 2.9–8.2 mTorr of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> in 700 Torr total pressure of air diluent. Fig. 2 shows the loss of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  plotted versus loss of



Fig. 2. Decay of CF<sub>3</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub> (circles),  $C_2F_5$ CH=CH<sub>2</sub> (inverted triangles),  $C_4F_9$ CH=CH<sub>2</sub> (squares),  $C_6F_{13}$ CH=CH<sub>2</sub> (triangles), and  $C_8F_{17}$ CH=CH<sub>2</sub> (diamonds) vs.  $C_2H_4$  and  $C_2H_2$  in the presence of OH radicals in 700 Torr of air at 296 ± 2 K.

the reference compounds. As with the Cl atom kinetic data presented in Section 3.1, it can be seen from Fig. 2 that there was no discernable effect of the size of the  $C_xF_{2x+1}$ -group on reactivity of the  $C_xF_{2x+1}$ CH=CH<sub>2</sub> molecule. Accordingly, we analyze the entire set of  $C_xF_{2x+1}$ CH=CH<sub>2</sub> together. Linear least squares analysis gives  $k_{13}/k_{14} = 0.156 \pm 0.011$  and  $k_{13}/k_{15} = 1.65 \pm 0.12$ .

Using  $k_{14} = (8.52 \pm 1.28) \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ [20] and  $k_{15} = (8.45 \pm 0.85) \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ [21] gives  $k_{13} = (1.33 \pm 0.22) \times 10^{-12}$  and  $(1.39 \pm 0.17) \times$  $10^{-12}$  cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. Indistinguishable values of  $k_{13}$  are obtained using the two different references. We choose to cite a final value which is the average of the individual determinations together with error limits which encompass the extremes of the determinations, hence  $k_{13} = (1.36 \pm 0.25) \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . Orkin et al. [22] have reported  $k(OH + CF_3CH = CH_2) = (1.54 \pm 0.05) \times$  $10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , while Vesine et al. [18] have reported  $k(OH + C_4F_9CH = CH_2) = (1.3 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-12}$  $cm^{3}$  molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> and  $k(OH + C_{6}F_{13}CH = CH_{2}) = (1.5 \pm 10^{-1}) cm^{3}$  $(0.3) \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ; our results are in good agreement with the previous studies. In contrast to the situation with Cl atom attack, the reactivity of OH radicals towards  $C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2$  is substantially (approximately a factor of 6) lower than towards CH2=CH2 and 22 times lower than towards CH<sub>3</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>. As with Cl atoms, reaction with OH proceeds via electrophilic addition to the >C=C< double bond. When compared to Cl atoms, OH radicals have a lower reactivity, are more discriminating, and hence are more sensitive to the presence of the electron withdrawing  $C_x F_{2x+1}$ -substituents.



Fig. 3. Pseudo first order loss of  $CF_3CH=CH_2$  (circles),  $C_2F_5CH=CH_2$  (inverted triangles),  $C_4F_9CH=CH_2$  (square),  $C_6F_{13}CH=CH_2$  (triangle), and  $C_8F_{17}CH=CH_2$  (diamonds) vs. O<sub>3</sub> concentration. The insert shows typical decay plots for  $CF_3CH=CH_2$  when exposed to 148 mTorr (circles), 395 mTorr (diamonds), or 679 mTorr (triangles) of  $O_3$ .

## 3.3. Absolute rate study of $k(O_3 + C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2)$

The kinetics of reaction (16) were studied by observing the decay of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  when exposed to ozone in the reaction chamber. Reaction mixtures consisted of 6.8–22.5 mTorr  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$ , 14.3–43.2 mTorr cyclohexane, and 253–740 mTorr O<sub>3</sub> in 700 Torr of air diluent. Cyclohexane was added to avoid potential problems associated with the loss of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  via reaction with OH radicals formed in reaction (16). Variation of the cyclohexane concentration by a factor of 3 had no discernable effect on the observed decay of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  suggesting that loss via reaction with OH radicals is not a significant complication in the present work. The loss of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$ followed pseudo first order kinetics in all experiments (see inset in Fig. 3):

 $O_3 + C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2 \rightarrow products$  (16)

Fig. 3 shows a plot of the pseudo first order loss of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  versus  $O_3$  concentration. The results obtained in the present work fall into two distinct groups. The smallest member of the series,  $CF_3CH=CH_2$ , had a distinctly greater reactivity towards  $O_3$  than the larger members of the series. As evident from inspection of Fig. 3, increasing size of the fluorinated alkyl group from  $C_2F_5$  to  $C_8F_{17}$  had no discernable impact on the reactivity of the molecule towards ozone. Hence, we choose to analyze the data in two sets: (i)  $CF_3CH=CH_2$ , and (ii)  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  ( $x \ge 2$ ). In the absence of  $O_3$ , there was no observable loss (<2%) of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  on standing in the chamber for 60 min, and hence we choose to conduct a linear least squares analysis of the data in Fig. 3 with the intercept fixed at the origin.

The lines through the data give  $k_{17} = (3.5 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-19}$  and  $k_{18} = (2.0 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-19}$  cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. In view of the relative few data points for C<sub>x</sub>F<sub>2x+1</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub> ( $x \ge 2$ ) in Fig. 3, we choose to quote  $k_{18} = (2.0 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-19}$  cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>.

$$CF_3CH=CH_2+O_3 \rightarrow \text{ products}$$
 (17)

$$C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2 (x \ge 2) + O_3 \rightarrow \text{ products}$$
 (18)

It is of interest to compare and contrast the reactivity of O<sub>3</sub> towards fluoroalkenes [23] and alkenes. The reported rate constants for reactions of O<sub>3</sub> with propene, 1-butene, 1-pentene, 1-hexene, 1-heptene, 1-octene, and 1-decene are indistinguishable and are approximately  $1.0 \times 10^{-17}$  cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> [20]. In their reactions with O<sub>3</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub> and C<sub>x</sub>F<sub>2x+1</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub> ( $x \ge 2$ ) are less reactive than their non-fluorinated counterparts by factors of 30 and 50, respectively. As with Cl atoms and OH radicals, reaction occurs by electrophilic addition of O<sub>3</sub> to the >C=C double bond. When compared to Cl atoms and OH radicals, O<sub>3</sub> has the lowest reactivity and hence is most sensitive to the presence of the electron withdrawing C<sub>x</sub>F<sub>2x+1</sub>-substituent.

### 4. Implications for atmospheric chemistry

The present work improves our understanding of the atmospheric chemistry of fluorinated olefins of the general formula  $C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2$ . Cl atoms and OH radicals react with  $C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2$  (x = 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8) with rate constants of  $(9.07 \pm 1.08) \times 10^{-11}$  and  $(1.36 \pm 0.25) \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1},$ respectively. O<sub>3</sub> reacts with CF<sub>3</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub> with a rate constant of  $(3.5 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and with C<sub>x</sub>F<sub>2x+1</sub> CH=CH<sub>2</sub> ( $x \ge 2$ ) with a rate constant of (2.0±0.4)  $\times 10^{-19}$  cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. The reactivity of Cl atoms and OH radicals towards  $C_x F_{2x+1}$  CH=CH<sub>2</sub> (x = 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8) and the reactivity of O<sub>3</sub> towards  $C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2$  (x = 2, 4, 6, and 8) does not depend on the size of the  $C_x F_{2x+1}$ -group. Hence, we are able to generalize our results for  $x \ge 2$ ;  $k(Cl + C_x F_{2x+1}CH = CH_2) = (9.07 \pm 1.08) \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol-}$ ecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>,  $k(OH + C_x F_{2x+1}CH = CH_2) = (1.36 \pm 0.25) \times$  $10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and  $k(O_3 + C_x F_{2x+1} \text{CH=CH}_2)$ break =  $(2.0 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

The value of  $k(OH + C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2)$  derived above can be used to provide an estimate of the atmospheric lifetime of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$ . Using a global weighted-average OH concentration of  $1.0 \times 10^6$  molecule cm<sup>-3</sup> [24] leads to an estimated lifetime of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  with respect to reaction with OH radicals of 8.5 days. Our value of  $k(O_3 + C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2)$  can be used to provide an estimate of the atmospheric lifetime of  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$  with respect to reaction with O<sub>3</sub>. The global background concentration of O<sub>3</sub> is approximately 35 ppb [25] which leads to an estimated lifetime of 70 days.

The approximate nature of these lifetime estimates should be stressed; the average daily concentration of OH radicals and O<sub>3</sub> in the atmosphere varies significantly with both location and season [26]. The values above are estimates of global average lifetimes; local lifetimes could be different from those quoted above.  $C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2$  compounds will not undergo photolysis [22] and are not expected to be removed effectively by either wet or dry deposition. Cl atoms are not present in the atmosphere in sufficient quantity to impact the lifetime of  $C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2$ . Hence, reaction with OH and  $O_3$  are expected to be the major loss mechanism for these fluorinated olefins. The overall atmospheric lifetime of  $C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2$  (x > 2) is then expected to be 7.6 days with removal occurring approximately 90% via reaction with OH and 10% via reaction with O<sub>3</sub>. The global average wind speed is 4 m s<sup>-1</sup> and in 7.6 days air masses can travel approximately 2000-3000 km. Following its release into the environment, it is expected that  $C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2$  will survive long-range transport in the atmosphere. There are three necessary conditions for  $C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2$  emissions to make a significant contribution to the perfluorocarboxylic acid burden observed in remote areas. First,  $C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2$  emissions need to be of a sufficient magnitude. Second, either  $C_xF_{2x+1}CH=CH_2$ or its degradation products must survive long range transport. Third,  $C_x F_{2x+1} CH = CH_2$  must degrade to give a significant perfluorocarboxylic acid yield. The present work shows that the second condition is met.

### Acknowledgements

The Nagoya group thanks both Grants-in-Aid from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology, Japan, and also the Steel Industrial Foundation for the Advancement of Environmental Protection Technology for financial support. MPSA thanks the Danish National Research Agency for a research grant.

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