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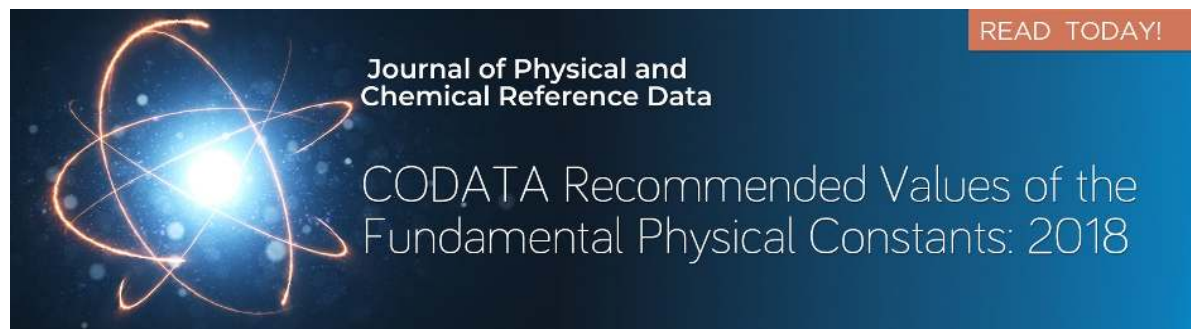
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# A Database of Experimentally Derived and Estimated Octanol–Air Partition Ratios ( $K_{OA}$ )

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## ABSTRACT

Equilibrium partition coefficients or partition ratios are a fundamental concept in physical chemistry, with wide applications in environmental chemistry. While comprehensive data compilations for the octanol–water partition ratio and the Henry's law constant have existed for many years, no comparable effort for the octanol–air partition ratio ( $K_{OA}$ ) exists. Considering the increasing use of  $K_{OA}$  in understanding a chemical's partitioning between a wide variety of organic phases (organic phases in atmospheric particles, plant foliage, polymeric sorbents, soil organic matter, animal tissues, etc.) and the gas phase, we have compiled all  $K_{OA}$  values reported in the published literature. The dataset includes more than 2500 experimentally derived values and more than 10 000 estimated values for  $K_{OA}$ , in total covering over 1500 distinct molecules. The range of measured  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values extends from  $-2$  to  $13$ . Many more measured values have been reported in the  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  range from  $2$  to  $5$  and from  $6$  to  $11$  compared to the range from  $5$  to  $6$ , which is due to the complementary applicability range of static and dynamic measurement techniques. The compilation also identifies measured data that are judged not reliable.  $K_{OA}$  values for substances capable of undergoing strong hydrogen bonding derived from regressions with retention times on nonpolar gas chromatographic columns deviate strongly from values estimated by prediction techniques that account for such intermolecular interactions and should be considered suspect. It is hoped that the database will serve as a source for locating existing  $K_{OA}$  data and for the calibration and evaluation of new  $K_{OA}$  prediction techniques.

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Key words: database; octanol–air partition coefficient; partitioning; partition ratio; temperature.

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## 1. Introduction

Understanding the affinity of a chemical for liquid octanol, liquid water, and the gas phase is often the first step to understanding its potential environmental and biological fate and behavior. The physical–chemical properties to quantify those affinities include equilibrium partition ratios, saturation solubilities, and vapor pressure, which are related to one another through a series of thermodynamic triangles (Fig. 1). Chemical equilibrium partition ratios, hereafter simply referred to as partition ratios, are a concept fundamental to physical chemistry, with many applications in the fields of environmental, medicinal, and pharmaceutical sciences. While in the literature the thermodynamic property is more commonly referred to as a partition coefficient, we follow IUPAC nomenclature guidelines and describe the distribution of a chemical between two phases at equilibrium as a partition ratio.

The unitless octanol–air partition ratio ( $K_{OA}$ ) describes the distribution of a chemical between octan-1-ol (CAS No. 111-87-5) and the gas phase at equilibrium,

$$K_{OA} = C_O/C_A, \quad (1)$$

where  $C_O$  and  $C_A$  are the concentrations of a compound in *n*-octanol and the gas phase in  $\text{mol m}^{-3}$ , respectively.  $K_{OA}$  has many possible applications, most notably in linear free-energy relationships

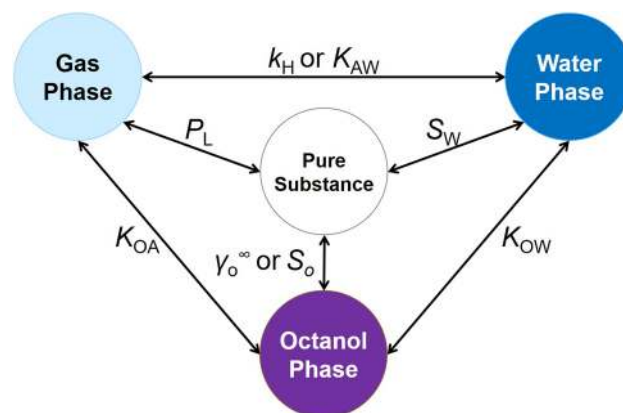


FIG. 1. Thermodynamic triangles of physical–chemical properties relating solvation in octanol, water, and in the pure liquid with the gas phase.

for predicting the equilibrium distribution of compounds between the gas phase and atmospheric particles (Finizio *et al.*, 1997), blood (Batterman *et al.*, 2002), soil (Hippelein and McLachlan, 2000; 1998), foliage (Müller *et al.*, 1994; Paterson *et al.*, 1990), and some of the polymers used in passive air samplers (Ockenden *et al.*, 1998; Shoeb and Harner, 2002a).

Many comprehensive reviews (Mackay *et al.*, 2015) and databases of octanol–water partition ratios ( $K_{OW}$ ) (Leo *et al.*, 1971), Henry's law constants ( $k_H$ ) (Mackay and Shiu, 1981; Sander 2015), and other physical–chemical properties [e.g., Mackay *et al.* (2006); Rumble *et al.* (2019); US EPA (2012)] exist in the literature. While Jin *et al.* (2017) compiled  $K_{OA}$  data for the development of an estimation model, there has been no comprehensive collection or review of  $K_{OA}$  data to date. Our aim is to assemble comprehensively and critically all previously published experimental and estimated  $K_{OA}$  data. This work further includes an overview of the different techniques that have been used to obtain  $K_{OA}$  values. The assembled database should be an easy-to-look-up repository of existing  $K_{OA}$  data but also be suitable for evaluating existing  $K_{OA}$  prediction techniques and the development of new ones.

### 1.1. Reporting $K_{OA}$ values

In this section, we briefly review the various ways in which  $K_{OA}$  has been reported in the literature. In most cases, the values included in the database were reported as  $K_{OA}$  or  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values; however, 1409 values were derived from reported Ostwald coefficients in octanol ( $L_{oct}$ ), Henry's law constants in octanol ( $k_H^{oct}$ , Pa m<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>), the Gibbs energies of dissolution into octanol from the gas phase ( $\Delta G^\circ$ , J mol<sup>-1</sup>), or activity coefficients of a chemical in octanol at infinite dilution ( $\gamma_o^\infty$ ). While various papers report values using different units for pressure, temperature, and volume, we have reported all equations and variables using SI units (e.g., Pa for pressure, K for temperature, and m<sup>3</sup> for volume) unless otherwise stated.

#### 1.1.1. Ostwald coefficient in octanol ( $L_{oct}$ )

The earliest measurement of the solvation of a compound in octan-1-ol from the gas phase that we found was published in 1960 and was reported as an Ostwald coefficient in octanol ( $L_{oct}$ ) by Boyer and Bircher (1960). The Ostwald coefficient has been used for over a century to describe the solubility of gases in liquids (Ostwald, 1891). Since Ostwald initially coined the term, the following definitions for the Ostwald coefficient at equilibrium have been used (Battino, 1984):

- (i)  $L_V^0$  is the volume of gas ( $V_G$ ) dissolved in a volume of pure liquid ( $V_L^0$ ),

$$L_V^0 = V_G/V_L^0 \quad (2)$$

- (ii)  $L_V$  is the volume of gas ( $V_G$ ) dissolved in a volume of solution ( $V_L$ ),

$$L_V = V_G/V_L \quad (3)$$

- (iii)  $L_C$  represents the concentration of a gas in the liquid phase ( $C_L$ ) divided by its concentration in the vapor phase ( $C_V$ ),

$$L_C = C_L/C_V, \quad (4)$$

and

- (iv)  $L_C^\infty$  is  $L_C$  at the infinite-dilution concentration of the gas in the liquid,

$$L_C^\infty = \lim_{C_L \rightarrow 0} (C_L/C_V). \quad (5)$$

Battino (1984) reviews more comprehensively the differences between these definitions and judges concentration-based definitions for equilibrium ratios to be the most thermodynamically reliable and useful method for reporting Ostwald coefficients (Battino, 1984; Wilhelm and Battino, 1985). The use of  $L_{oct}$  to describe octanol–air partitioning is not altogether common and is to our knowledge limited to Boyer and Bircher (1960), Wilcock *et al.* (1978), Pollack *et al.* (1984), and Bo *et al.* (1993). Unless the reference states otherwise, we assume all published  $L_{oct}$  values to be concentration ratios, equivalent to the  $K_{OA}$  value (Abraham *et al.*, 2001).

#### 1.1.2. Gibbs energy ( $\Delta G_{oct}^\circ$ )

The Gibbs energy describing the energy required to transfer a solute between two phases can also be expressed in two ways (Schwarzenbach *et al.*, 2005). If the Gibbs energy for octanol–air transfer is reported on a concentration basis ( $\Delta G^\circ$ ), we can directly solve for  $K_{OA}$  using

$$\ln K_{OA} = -\Delta G_{oct}^\circ/(RT), \quad (6)$$

where  $R$  is the ideal gas constant (8.314 J K<sup>-1</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>) and  $T$  is the absolute temperature (in K). If the Gibbs energy is reported using partial pressure and mole fraction ( $\Delta G^*$ ), a conversion to  $\Delta G^\circ$  is first required (Berti *et al.*, 1986; Cabani *et al.*, 1991),

$$\Delta G_{oct}^\circ = \Delta G_{oct}^* - RT \cdot \ln(RT/v_{oct}), \quad (7)$$

where  $v_{oct}$  is the molar volume of octanol (0.000 158 m<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup> at 25 °C) (Rumble *et al.*, 2019; Yaws, 2012).

#### 1.1.3. Henry's law constant in octanol ( $k_H^{oct}$ )

Air–water equilibrium is often expressed with the Henry's law constant ( $k_H$ ) (Fig. 1), typically with units of Pa m<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>. Likewise, partitioning between octanol and air can be described as the  $k_H$  in octanol ( $k_H^{oct}$ ) with units of Pa m<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>. Leng *et al.* (2015) and Roberts (2005) described octanol–air partitioning using the Henry's law solubility constant, the reciprocal of  $k_H^{oct}$  ( $k_H'^{oct}$ , mol m<sup>-3</sup> Pa<sup>-1</sup>).  $K_{OA}$  is obtained using

$$K_{OA} = k_H'^{oct} \cdot RT = \frac{RT}{k_H^{oct}}. \quad (8)$$

#### 1.1.4. Activity coefficients ( $\gamma_o^\infty$ ) and liquid vapor pressures ( $P_L$ )

$K_{OA}$  can be related to a chemical's solubility  $S_O$  (in units of mol m<sup>-3</sup> octanol) or activity coefficient at infinite dilution  $\gamma_o^\infty$  (hereafter referred to as the activity coefficient) in octanol,

$$K_{OA} = \frac{S_O \cdot RT}{P_L} = \frac{RT}{v_{\text{oct}} \cdot \gamma_o^\infty \cdot P_L}, \quad (9)$$

where  $P_L$  is the liquid-phase vapor pressure (in Pa). A  $K_{OA}$  value can therefore be calculated from a reported activity coefficient  $\gamma_o^\infty$  using the thermodynamic triangle of Eq. (9) if the vapor pressure of the liquid solute  $P_L$  is available. For the purposes of this database, we include  $K_{OA}$  values calculated using Eq. (9) if  $\gamma_o^\infty$  and  $P_L$  were measured for the same system (Hussam and Carr, 1985) or if the  $P_L$  was used to derive  $\gamma_o^\infty$  (Bhatia and Sandler, 1995; Dallas and Carr, 1992; Fukuchi *et al.*, 2001; 1999; Tse and Sandler 1994). Chemicals for which the reported solubilities or activity coefficients and the vapor pressures derive from different studies are not currently included in the database of measured  $K_{OA}$  values.

### 1.1.5. $K_{OA}$ and $K'_{OA}$

Using another thermodynamic triangle,  $K_{OA}$  can be related to the ratio of the octanol–water ( $K_{OW}$  in units of  $\text{m}^3 \text{ water m}^{-3}$  octanol) and air–water partition ratios ( $K_{AW}$  in units of  $\text{m}^3 \text{ water m}^{-3}$  air) or the Henry's law constant in water ( $k_H$  in units of  $\text{Pa m}^3 \text{ water mol}^{-1}$ ),

$$K'_{OA} = K_{OW}/K_{AW} = (K_{OW} \cdot RT)/k_H. \quad (10)$$

Because during a  $K_{OW}$  determination, water–saturated octanol is being equilibrated with octanol–saturated water, the thermodynamic triangle of Eq. (10) yields the partitioning ratio between water–saturated octanol (referred to occasionally as “wet” octanol) and the gas phase, which we call  $K'_{OA}$ . The presence of water in octanol may increase the octanol solubility of more hydrophilic chemicals and reduce the octanol solubility of more hydrophobic chemicals (Beyer *et al.*, 2002).

In most instances, the  $K_{OA}$  reported in the literature refers to the ratio of concentrations of a chemical in pure octanol and the gas phase at equilibrium. However, this is not always the case [e.g., Xu and Kropscott (2014; 2012)]. Therefore, we note within the database whether  $K_{OA}$  or  $K'_{OA}$  is reported.

### 1.1.6. Internally consistent $K$ values

The thermodynamic constraints imposed on the partitioning properties by the four thermodynamic triangles displayed in Fig. 1 have been used to adjust properties that are subject to measurement errors to yield a set of properties, called final adjusted values (FAVs), that is internally consistent and, by inference, subject to reduced error (Beyer *et al.*, 2002). Those efforts also take into account the potential discrepancy between  $K_{OA}$  and  $K'_{OA}$ . Whereas FAVs for the  $K_{OA}$  of hexachlorocyclohexanes (Xiao *et al.*, 2004), other organochlorine pesticides (Shen and Wania, 2005), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (Ma *et al.*, 2010), polybrominated diphenyl ethers (Wania and Dugani, 2003), polychlorinated biphenyls (Li *et al.*, 2003), polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and -furans (Åberg *et al.*, 2008), and volatile methylsiloxanes (Xu *et al.*, 2014) have been reported in the literature, this database does not include them.

## 1.2. Temperature dependence of $K_{OA}$

$K_{OA}$  is often highly temperature dependent. At higher temperatures, the  $K_{OA}$  of a chemical will be lower, as it becomes more volatile; at low temperatures,  $K_{OA}$  is higher. As an example, Fig. 2

plots  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  of DDT (CAS No. 50-29-3) against reciprocal absolute temperature  $T$ , where  $K_{OA}$  spans multiple orders of magnitude over a 50 °C temperature range. The slope  $m$  of the linear regression between  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  and  $1/T$  is related to the molar internal energy of octanol-to-air phase transfer ( $\Delta U_{OA}^\circ$ ,  $\text{J mol}^{-1}$ ),

$$\Delta U_{OA}^\circ = -m \cdot R \cdot \ln 10. \quad (11)$$

If  $\Delta U_{OA}^\circ$  is assumed to be constant over a small range of temperatures, the van't Hoff equation can be used to calculate the  $K_{OA}$  at different temperatures,

$$\log_{10} \frac{K_{OA} \text{ at } T_2}{K_{OA} \text{ at } T_1} = -\frac{\Delta U_{OA}^\circ}{R} \cdot \left( \frac{1}{T_2} - \frac{1}{T_1} \right) \cdot \log_{10} e, \quad (12)$$

$$\ln \frac{K_{OA} \text{ at } T_2}{K_{OA} \text{ at } T_1} = -\frac{\Delta U_{OA}^\circ}{R} \cdot \left( \frac{1}{T_2} - \frac{1}{T_1} \right). \quad (13)$$

Here,  $\Delta U_{OA}^\circ$  expresses the temperature dependence of a partition ratio with the gas phase if the abundance of the chemical in the gas phase is expressed using a volumetric concentration (Goss and Eisenreich, 1996; Atkinson and Curthoys, 1978). The molar enthalpy of solution in octanol from the gas phase ( $\Delta H_{OA}^\circ$ ,  $\text{J mol}^{-1}$ ) is used when the chemical's abundance in air is expressed as partial pressure.  $\Delta U_{OA}^\circ$  is related to  $\Delta H_{OA}^\circ$  as follows:

$$\Delta U_{OA}^\circ = \Delta H_{OA}^\circ + RT. \quad (14)$$

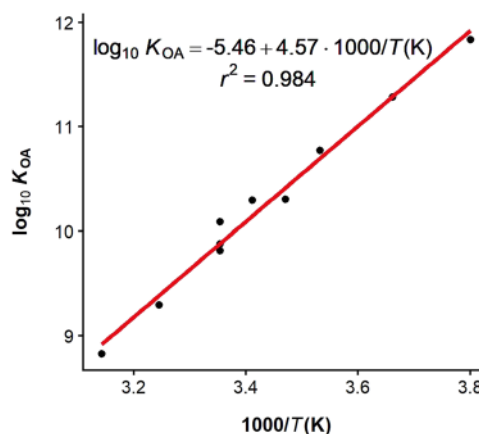


FIG. 2. Example of the temperature dependence of  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  for DDT (CAS No. 50-29-3) between  $-10$  and  $45$  °C (Harner and Mackay, 1995; Shoeb and Harner, 2002b).



While  $K_{OA}$  is almost invariably reported on a volume basis, we found that in some instances  $\Delta U_{OA}^{\circ}$  has been mistakenly referred to as  $\Delta H_{OA}^{\circ}$ . We note the difference between the two variables because prediction techniques for  $\Delta H_{OA}^{\circ}$  (Mintz *et al.*, 2008; 2007) and direct measurements of  $\Delta H_{OA}^{\circ}$  using calorimetric techniques (Fuchs and Stephenson, 1985; Stephenson and Fuchs, 1985a; 1985b; 1985c; 1985d; 1985e) exist in the literature.

The  $\Delta U_{OA}^{\circ}$  must be negative because the slope  $m$  in Eq. (11) has a positive value (as  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  decreases with increasing temperature). Many papers report a positive  $\Delta U_{OA}^{\circ}$  value, which we believe to be  $\Delta U_{AO}^{\circ}$  values.

## 2. Experimental Techniques

The different experimental techniques used to measure  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  can be grouped into three broad categories: dynamic, static, and indirect. Many of the reported values are direct measurements made using the dynamic generator column technique or indirect measurements using gas chromatography retention time (GC-RT) methods. Dynamic techniques typically involve streaming air through or over a stationary octanol phase. In static measurement techniques, the octanol phase and air phase are in direct contact with each other in a closed vessel; however, neither phase is moving. Indirect techniques require a reference compound with a well-established measured  $K_{OA}$  value, and the elution time of the analyte relative to that of the reference compound is used to determine  $K_{OA}$ . In this section, we discuss each of these measurement techniques in greater detail. Table 1 summarizes the different techniques used to measure  $K_{OA}$ . Most techniques have a specific applicability range for  $K_{OA}$ . We also list the temperature range for these different measurements.

### 2.1. Static methods

In static techniques, either the gas phase, the octanol phase, or both are directly sampled and analyzed for the solutes once they have reached equilibrium within a closed system. This includes a variety of headspace techniques [e.g., Dallas (1995); Hussam and Carr (1985); Park *et al.* (1987); Treves *et al.* (2001); Xu and Kropscott (2014; 2013; 2012); and Lei *et al.* (2019)], a vacuum distillation method (Hiatt 1998; 1997), and a method based on measuring the kinetics of approaching an equilibrium distribution (Ha and Kwon 2010; Lee and Kwon 2016).

#### 2.1.1. Headspace techniques

In the basic headspace technique, the solute is equilibrated between octanol and headspace in a closed container, whose temperature is controlled, for example, with a water bath. The concentration in the headspace is then quantified using gas chromatography and an external calibration. The concentration in octanol is determined by dissolving a known quantity of solute into a known volume of octanol, and the  $K_{OA}$  is then determined using Eq. (1). Headspace techniques can measure multiple solutes at the same time, at different temperatures, and at low solute concentrations.

Rohrschneider (1973) was one of the first to use headspace analysis to measure solvent–air interactions in many different solvents, including octanol. A small volume of solute was added to 2 ml of

solvent and allowed to equilibrate for two to fifteen hours in a temperature bath. The headspace of the vial was sampled and calibrated against the response for the solute in a solvent for which  $K_{iA}$  is known (where  $i$  is a solvent).

The group of Carr *et al.* (Hussam and Carr, 1985; Park *et al.*, 1987; Dallas, 1995; and Castells *et al.*, 1999) refined the headspace technique for measuring solute partitioning between solvents and the gas phase. This technique has also been used by Cheong (1989), Abraham *et al.* (2001), and Dallas and Carr (1992). Typically,  $\gamma_{\infty}^{\circ}$  and  $P_L$  are reported, allowing for  $K_{OA}$  to be derived using Eq. (9), or  $K_{OA}$  was reported directly. The data by Castells *et al.* (1999) are excluded from the database as no  $P_L$  values were reported.

Instead of a headspace vial, Xu and Kropscott (2013) used a 100 ml Hamilton syringe to equilibrate a solute between octanol and air. For analysis, air and octanol samples are taken through the same sampling port, with the former being collected onto a cold trap. A more complex apparatus involving two syringes connected by a small valve was used by Xu and Kropscott (2012) to simultaneously measure the partitioning equilibria between two solvents and the headspace. Using octanol saturated with water and water saturated with octanol as the two solvents, Xu and Kropscott (2012) measured the  $K'_{OA}$  with this system. While this technique can determine multiple phase equilibria of relatively volatile chemicals at the same time, it is extremely challenging to implement because all three phases need to be sampled quickly to avoid disturbing the equilibrium of the system.

The variable phase ratio headspace technique introduced by Ettre *et al.* (1993), and first applied to the measurement of  $K_{OA}$  by Lei *et al.* (2019), improves on the basic headspace technique by doing away with the need to quantify the solute concentration in the headspace. Variable volumes of the same octanol solution are placed into sealed vials and allowed to equilibrate. The reciprocal signal strength obtained from headspace analysis is regressed against the phase ratio, which is the volume of air to the volume of octanol solution present in each vial (Lei *et al.*, 2019). The  $K_{OA}$  is then determined as the intercept divided by the slope of the linear regression (Lei *et al.*, 2019), i.e., no calibration or quantification is required.

Whereas headspace techniques work well for volatile compounds, they are unsuitable for chemicals with  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  greater than about 4 (Lei *et al.*, 2019). One challenge of applying headspace techniques to less volatile solutes is that the concentrations in the headspace are often too small for reliable quantification. Treves *et al.* (2001) used solid-phase microextraction (SPME) fibers to collect the solute from the headspace and thus increase the amount delivered onto the GC column for analysis. A quantification of the headspace concentration, however, would require knowledge of a solute's gas–fiber partition ratio ( $K_{FG}$ ) and a fiber-specific constant ( $k_F$ ). Treves *et al.* (2001) eliminated the need to empirically determine  $K_{FG}$  and  $k_F$  of a chemical by using a reference compound with a known  $k_H$ . The response of each sample is plotted against the solution concentration, where the slope is equal to  $K_{FG} \cdot k_F$  over  $k_H^{\text{ref}} \cdot RT$ .

Seeking to measure the partitioning of anesthetic gases between air and blood, Strum and Eger (1987) developed a headspace technique that can work with small amounts of solvent, which is particularly advantageous when working with human samples (e.g., blood).

**TABLE 1.** Summary of the different techniques used to obtain experimental  $K_{OA}$  values, including the  $K_{OA}$  and temperature ranges of the values reported in the database

Type of technique	Method	$n$	$\log_{10} K_{OA}$ range	Temperature range ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	References	
Static	Headspace	196	-1.3–5.4	25–37	Abraham <i>et al.</i> (2001), Batterman <i>et al.</i> (2002), Cheong (1989), Dallas (1995), Dallas and Carr (1992), Hussam and Carr (1985), Park <i>et al.</i> (1987), and Rohrschneider (1973)	
	Headspace with SPME	9	3.0–7.9	25	Treves <i>et al.</i> (2001)	
	Headspace with syringe	93	-0.4–6.0	25	Eger <i>et al.</i> (1999; 1997), Fang <i>et al.</i> (1997a; 1997b; 1996), Ionescu <i>et al.</i> (1994), and Taheri <i>et al.</i> (1993; 1991)	
	Variable phase ratio	78	1.6–4.4	25–110	Lei <i>et al.</i> (2019)	
	Multiphase equilibrium	82	2.7–6.9	-5–40	Xu and Kropscott (2014; 2013; 2012)	
	Droplet kinetics	18	5.4–11	25	Ha and Kwon (2010) and Lee and Kwon (2016)	
	Vacuum distillation	121	0.5–5.6	25	Hiatt (1998; 1997)	
	Gas solubility	45	-1.8–0.5	9–50	Bo <i>et al.</i> (1993), Boyer and Bircher (1960), Pollack <i>et al.</i> (1984), and Wilcock <i>et al.</i> (1978)	
	Dynamic	Partial pressure	18	2.2–4.1	25	Berti <i>et al.</i> (1986) and Cabani <i>et al.</i> (1991)
		Generator column or fugacity meter	745	4.0–12.6	-10–50	Dreyer <i>et al.</i> (2009), Goss <i>et al.</i> (2006), Harner <i>et al.</i> (2000), Harner and Bidleman (1998; 1996), Harner and Mackay (1995), Kömp and McLachlan (1997), Shoeib <i>et al.</i> (2004), Shoeib and Harner (2002b), Thuens <i>et al.</i> (2008), Wania <i>et al.</i> (2002), and Yao <i>et al.</i> (2007)
Gas stripping		23	1.7–3.9	0–40	Fukuchi <i>et al.</i> (2001; 1999), Leng <i>et al.</i> (2015), and Roberts (2005)	
Dynamic gas–liquid chromatography retention time		96	1.6–3.9	20–50	Gruber <i>et al.</i> 1997	
Indirect		Single reference, gas chromatography retention time	258	3.2–14	10–25	Lei <i>et al.</i> (2004), Odabasi <i>et al.</i> (2006a; 2006b), Odabasi and Cetin (2012), Okeme <i>et al.</i> (2020), Özcan (2013), Pegoraro <i>et al.</i> (2015), Vuong <i>et al.</i> (2020), Wang <i>et al.</i> (2017), Wania <i>et al.</i> (2002), Yaman <i>et al.</i> (2020), Zhang <i>et al.</i> (2009), and Zhao <i>et al.</i> (2010; 2009)
	Multi reference gas chromatography retention time	412	2.9–13.4	0–50	Shoeib and Harner (2002a), Su <i>et al.</i> (2002), and Zhang <i>et al.</i> (1999)	
	Multi reference, single column, gas chromatography retention time	230	2.7–12.4	10–50	Su <i>et al.</i> (2002)	
	Retention time index	46	8.4–13	7–25	Chen <i>et al.</i> (2001) and Harner <i>et al.</i> (2000)	
	Gas–liquid chromatography retention time	47	1.9–3.6	25–50	Bhatia and Sandler (1995) and Tse and Sandler (1994)	

This technique was widely used in the field of anesthesiology for a range of solvents. The technique as described by Taheri *et al.* (1991), and variations thereof, have been employed by Eger and colleagues to measure  $K_{OA}$  at 37  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  (Eger *et al.*, 1997; 2001; Fang *et al.*, 1997a; 1997b; 1996; Ionescu *et al.*, 1994; and Taheri *et al.*, 1993). A volume

of the gaseous analyte is dissolved into octanol and the concentration of the solute in the headspace is determined using gas chromatography. A small aliquot of the octanol solution is then added to a larger evacuated flask. The pressure in the flask is slowly released, and a syringe is used to pump additional air to the system and

mix the gaseous phase. The air in the syringe is then analyzed to determine the concentration of the solute in the gaseous phase.  $K_{OA}$  in this method is derived as a function of the volume of the flask, the volume of the aliquot of octanol solution in the flask, and the initial and final concentrations of the solute in the gas phase sampled above the octanol solution. This is a highly complex methodology and is therefore more likely to be prone to error. It is also limited to gaseous solutes, which must be available in a relatively pure form. These gaseous solutes will have low  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values.

### 2.1.2. Vacuum distillation and gas chromatography

Hiatt reported  $K_{OA}$  values while working to improve upon earlier designs of a vacuum distillation with gas chromatography and mass spectrometry (VD/GC/MS) technique for quantifying volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in complex environmental matrices, such as fish tissue and vegetation (Hiatt, 1998; 1997). A sample and a spike containing the analytes of interest are placed in the sample chamber and allowed to equilibrate for three hours (Hiatt 1995). The sample chamber is then evacuated using a vacuum pump for five minutes, and the evacuated air passes first through a condenser column, to collect water vapor, and then a cryo-loop, submerged in liquid nitrogen, to collect the distillate (Hiatt, 1995). A carrier gas is then used to push the distillate through to a GC/MS for analysis (Hiatt, 1995).  $K_{OA}$  is then calculated based on the analyte recovery from the organic phase and a calculated  $K_{OA}$  of surrogate analytes (Hiatt, 1997). A major flaw of this measurement technique is the use of calculated  $K'_{OA}$  values for the surrogate analytes. The method also assumes that fish tissue and leaves are representative of pure octanol—however, we note that the values reported in these works are not explicitly indicated to be  $K_{OA}$  measurements. While the reverse can be used as an estimation technique, this assumption is not ideal for deriving physical–chemical properties of chemicals. Some of the reported  $K_{OA}$  values have a large degree of error (Hiatt, 1997).

### 2.1.3. Gas solubility techniques

Two general techniques were found to measure the  $L_{oct}$  of gaseous compounds. The first is used specifically for measuring the solubility of xenon (Xe, CAS No. 7440-63-3). Here, Pollack *et al.* (1984) used a NaI(Tl) crystal paired with a photomultiplier, which is directed at a fixed amount of gaseous Xe held within a sealed chamber (Pollack and Himm, 1982). The chamber is connected to a flask containing a known amount of solvent, in this case octanol, with some headspace (Pollack and Himm, 1982). The Xe is allowed to reach equilibrium with the solvent and excess gas.  $K_{OA}$  can be determined based on the volume of the gaseous phases in the two chambers and the volume of the solvent and by quantifying the amount of Xe present before and after equilibrium is reached (Pollack and Himm, 1982).

The second gas solubility technique often involves the use of specific equipment, such as the Van Slyke–Neill blood gas apparatus (Boyer and Bircher, 1960), modified Morrison–Billett apparatus (Wilcock *et al.*, 1978), or the Ben–Naim/Baer-type apparatus (Bo *et al.*, 1993). These techniques are scarcely described in the original literature; however, Battino and Clever (1966)

described the technique using the Morrison–Billet apparatus and the Ben–Naim/Baer-type apparatus in an early review. An excess amount of gas is dissolved into a solvent and then the solution is degassed into an apparatus. The solvent is then saturated with the gas analyte at a constant temperature (Battino and Clever, 1966). Knowledge of the volume of the solvent in which the gas was dissolved and the pressure and volume of gas dissolved yields the gas solubility, and this combined with the partial pressure of the system can provide the  $L_{oct}$ .

### 2.1.4. Droplet kinetics

In the technique by Ha and Kwon (2010), a tiny droplet of octanol is suspended above an octanol solution within a sealed vial. The kinetics of uptake in the droplet of the solutes of interest and of a reference chemical with a well-established  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  is recorded by measuring the concentrations in the droplet after variable periods of time. The  $K_{OA}$  can then be derived from the kinetics of uptake if the thickness of the air boundary layer, the molecular diffusivity of the chemical in air, and the surface area and volume of the octanol droplet are known. The reference compound serves to calibrate the thickness of the air diffusive boundary layer. The  $K_{OA}$  of the analytes of interest must be sufficiently high so that the mass transfer resistance of the chemical in the octanol is negligible relative to that in air (Ha and Kwon 2010). The length of the experiment depends on the anticipated  $K_{OA}$  value, as it will take longer for a change in the chemical concentration in the octanol droplet to be quantifiable for chemicals with high  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values (Ha and Kwon, 2010). Although their measurements were conducted at 25 °C, Ha and Kwon suggested that this method can be used to obtain  $K_{OA}$  at different temperatures, as long as the octanol drop does not evaporate (Ha and Kwon, 2010). This measurement technique is applicable to chemicals with a  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  between 5 and 9 (Ha and Kwon, 2010), i.e., it extends to higher values than are typically accessible with static headspace techniques.

### 2.1.5. Partial pressure

Measurements of the partial vapor pressure of solutes in octanol can be used to determine the  $\Delta G^\circ$  of solvation into octanol (Berti *et al.*, 1986; Cabani *et al.*, 1991). The vapor pressure of octanol is first determined using a static apparatus (Berti *et al.*, 1986). The partial pressure of the solute over solution is measured at varying molar ratios and is used to solve for  $\Delta G'_{OA}$  (Berti *et al.*, 1986). By regressing the molar ratio with  $\Delta G'_{OA}$ , the authors extrapolated to solve for  $\Delta G^*_{OA}$  where the pressure (in atm) and molar ratio are equal to 1 (Berti *et al.*, 1986). Equation (7) is then used to solve for  $\Delta G^{\circ}_{OA}$  (Berti *et al.*, 1986).

## 2.2. Dynamic methods

The challenge of static techniques for  $K_{OA}$  determination is that the amount of less volatile compounds in the gas phase is too small for reliable determination. It is therefore often necessary to greatly increase the volume of air that is being equilibrated with the octanol phase. If the determination is based on the amount of solute being lost from the octanol phase, it can also be beneficial to minimize the volume of octanol in the experimental system. Dynamic techniques



for measuring  $K_{OA}$  involve passing a stream of air through or past a stationary octanol solution. Therefore, the volume of air can be increased by extending the length of time that the air is flowing past the octanol.

The generator column techniques require the amount of analyte transferred from octanol to the gas stream to be quantified, whereas in gas stripping techniques only the rate of change in the concentration of the analyte in the gas stream or the solvent must be recorded. In the dynamic gas–liquid chromatography technique,  $K_{OA}$  is derived from the time it takes for a chemical to travel through a gas chromatographic column with octanol as a stationary phase. The generator column technique is by far the most commonly applied dynamic method because it is one of the few techniques readily applicable to less volatile solutes.

### 2.2.1. Generator column or fugacity meter

The generator column technique, sometimes also referred to as the fugacity meter technique, involves passing large volumes of air through a stationary octanol phase. First used by Harner and Mackay (1995), this technique has since been used extensively in different configurations (Kömp and McLachlan, 1997; Dreyer *et al.*, 2009; *etc.*). Either glass wool or glass beads are coated with a small volume of an octanol solution and are placed in a column. Air passing through the column at a controlled rate for a measured length of time equilibrates with the octanol. The air is saturated with octanol prior to passage through the column to prevent the vaporization of octanol. The amount of chemical that partitions from the spiked octanol into the air phase is trapped and quantified to determine a concentration in air,  $C_A$ . Using the known concentration of the chemical in octanol,  $C_O$ , yields  $K_{OA}$  from Eq. (1).

This method requires the validity of several assumptions to yield reliable results. The concentration of the analytes of interest in the octanol needs to be sufficiently high to remain constant throughout the measurement. The flow rate must be sufficiently slow for the chemicals to reach equilibrium between octanol and air. The length of an experiment must balance the need to collect an amount of chemical from the air stream that is sufficient for reliable quantification but not so much that it would deplete the chemical from the spiked column.

### 2.2.2. Gas stripping and bubbling techniques

This technique is commonly applied for measuring  $k_H$  and involves passing air past a stationary solvent phase. Two variations of this technique have been applied to measuring  $K_{OA}$ .

Adopting the gas stripping method by Leroi *et al.* (1977), Fukuchi *et al.* (2001; 1999) moved small air bubbles through a very small volume of octanol containing the solute of interest. Equilibration is assured by a slow flow rate and small bubble size. A temperature bath allows for measurements at different temperatures. By recording the concentration change of the solute in the gas phase over time, Fukuchi *et al.* derived  $\gamma_o^\infty$  from the gas flow rate and the solute's estimated  $P_L$ . The volume of octanol is assumed to be constant (Leroi *et al.*, 1977). We used Eq. (9), the measured  $\gamma_o^\infty$ , and the estimated  $P_L$  to derive the  $K_{OA}$  value. This technique has only been used for four ether compounds.

In the technique by Roberts (2005), the solute is not added directly to the octanol, but the gas is first bubbled through a small volume of the liquid solute prior to being bubbled through a volume of octanol. Once the solute has reached equilibrium between the gas and octanol, the gas concentration of the solute at the outlet will be constant. At this point, the solute is removed from the gas flow, and the gas begins to strip the octanol of any solute (Roberts, 2005). Measuring the change in the concentration of the solute at the outlet allows for the determination of a first-order rate loss constant for the chemical from octanol. When combined with the octanol volume and gas flow rate,  $K_{OA}$  can be obtained (Roberts, 2005). This technique has been applied to measure the  $K_{OA}$  of peroxyacetyl nitrate (CAS No. 2278-22-0) (Roberts, 2005) and triethylamine (CAS No. 121-44-8) (Leng *et al.*, 2015).

Among the advantages of the gas stripping techniques are that analysis of only one phase is required and that no quantification is necessary because the change in signal strength over time can be plotted in place of concentration. This also eliminates the need for a calibration curve. Finally, this technique uses multiple measurements to obtain a single  $K_{OA}$  value, which increases the reliability of the experimental value. However, solute volatility limits the applicability of gas stripping techniques to a fairly narrow range of  $K_{OA}$ . The technique employed by Roberts (2005) is also limited to liquid solutes.

### 2.2.3. Gas-liquid chromatography retention time

Some dynamic methods rely on the determination of the retention of a solute in a gas chromatographic column containing octanol as a stationary phase. No quantification of the amount of solute in either octanol or gas phase is necessary. The use of octanol as a stationary phase sets these methods apart from other retention time techniques using commercial columns, which rely on correlations and always require reference compounds with a known  $K_{OA}$ . They will be discussed in the next section.

Gruber *et al.* (1997) recorded the net retention volume ( $V_N$ ) on columns with variable volumes of octanol ( $V_L$ ) coated on the inside. When  $V_N/V_L$  is regressed against the reciprocal of  $V_L$ , the intercept yields  $K_{OA}$  (Gruber *et al.*, 1997). This technique has similarities with the static variable phase ratio technique by Lei *et al.* (2019) described above.

Sandler *et al.* (Tse and Sandler, 1994; Bhatia and Sandler, 1995) used a slightly different gas chromatographic method, relying on the use of a reference compounds with a known  $\gamma_o^\infty$  (hexane and heptane), to measure the  $\gamma_o^\infty$  of halogenated alkanes. The ratio of the elution time of the reference compound and the solutes of interest relative to that of methane is used, together with an estimated  $P_L$ . We utilize the reported  $\gamma_o^\infty$  and  $P_L$  to calculate  $K_{OA}$  using Eq. (9).

## 2.3. Indirect gas-chromatographic retention time methods

Indirect techniques seek to derive  $K_{OA}$  from the retention time of solutes on commercial gas chromatographic columns, i.e., the stationary phases of those columns serve as surrogates for the octanol phase. Because these surrogates are imperfect, indirect methods always require a calibration and often relate the retention times of the analytes of interest to those of reference compounds with

previously measured  $K_{OA}$  values. There are a few variations of the gas chromatography retention time (GC-RT) technique; however, they all have in common that at least one chemical with a well-established  $K_{OA}$  value at different temperatures is required.

The first instance of measuring  $K_{OA}$  using GC-RT was by Zhang *et al.* (1999), who regressed capacity factors of chemicals on multiple columns with their  $K_{OA}$  to obtain a multiple linear regression (MLR) equation. The  $K_{OA}$  of multiple calibration chemicals need to be known as a function of temperature, as separate MLR equations are required for different temperatures. While the use of multiple columns with different solid phases is meant to better account for different types of interactions of a chemical with octanol (Zhang *et al.*, 1999), Su *et al.* (2002) showed that a linear regression with a single column's capacity factor worked equally well and yielded  $K_{OA}$  values with a smaller error.

The retention time index (RTI) method is essentially a technique for extrapolating known  $K_{OA}$  values within a group of structurally related compounds by linearly regressing directly determined  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values against the compounds' RTI (Harner *et al.*, 2000). The RTI relates the retention time of the solute to that of linear alkanes. The regression equation is then used to estimate  $K_{OA}$  for other related compounds using their RTI. A separate regression for different experimental temperatures is required. By further regressing the slope and intercept of these linear regressions against temperature, the  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  at different temperatures can be determined solely from the RTI of a chemical. This method relies heavily on having direct measurements of  $K_{OA}$  at different temperatures for different congeners and RTI values for each congener. When applying this method to polychlorinated dibenzo-dioxins and -furans (PCDD/Fs), Harner *et al.* (2000) also accounted for the position and number of chlorine substitutions because measurements with the generator column technique had revealed that tetra-, penta-, and hexa- PCDD/Fs with 3-4 chlorines in the 2,3,7, and/or 8 positions had a higher affinity to the octanol phase (Harner *et al.*, 2000). This illustrates the need for good calibration and reference data when using indirect  $K_{OA}$  measurement techniques.

Adapting a technique for the determination of  $P_L$ , Wania *et al.* (2002) used the retention time of a chemical relative to a single reference chemical in order to obtain  $K_{OA}$ . In principle, the relative retention times of the analyte ( $t_{Ri}$ ) and the reference compound ( $t_{Rref}$ ) are proportional to the partition ratio between the stationary phase of the column and air, which is also proportional to  $K_{OA}$  (Wania *et al.*, 2002). Thus, this method only requires a single reference compound to have well established  $K_{OA}$  values at different temperatures. These  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values are plotted against  $\ln(t_{Ri}/t_{Rref})$  to produce a linear regression with a slope equal to  $\Delta U_{Oai}/\Delta U_{Oaref} - 1$ . The internal energy of octanol gas phase transfer  $\Delta U_{Oai}$  then allows for the determination of  $K_{OA}$  at different temperatures (Wania *et al.*, 2002). The obtained  $K_{OA}$  values are then regressed against literature values of  $K_{OA}$  obtained using direct measurement techniques. Therefore, even though only one chemical is needed as a reference compound, calibration compounds with established  $K_{OA}$  values are needed to improve the reliability of the results. Wania *et al.* (2002) also showed the importance of selecting an appropriate reference compound because interactions of different compounds with the stationary phase and octanol may be dissimilar. This technique is the most commonly applied GC-RT for  $K_{OA}$  determination.

### 3. Estimation Techniques

Numerous techniques for estimating  $K_{OA}$  exist. We describe here a few of the major techniques if they had been specifically designed for estimating  $K_{OA}$  and if  $K_{OA}$  estimated with those techniques have been reported in the literature. If  $K_{OA}$  values had been calculated in the context of studies on passive air sampling, atmospheric particle-gas partitioning, or environmental fate modeling, they are not considered. Only articles focusing on physical-chemical property estimation techniques or work comparing experimental and/or estimated  $K_{OA}$  values are included within the database and in this review. Table 2 summarizes the different techniques for estimating  $K_{OA}$ . These techniques tend to have a wider applicability range than the experimental ones. We also list the temperature range for these methods. Most of the estimation models for  $K_{OA}$  are Quantitative Structure-Property Relationships (QSPRs). Density functional theory-based solvation models have also been used to determine  $K_{OA}$  by first obtaining  $\Delta G_{OA}^{\circ}$  of a chemical in octanol [see Eq. (6)].

#### 3.1. QSPR techniques

QSPR techniques typically involve the regression of descriptors against the property of interest to obtain an equation of best fit that will most accurately predict  $K_{OA}$ . These models can be very simple, using basic thermodynamic relationships and linear regressions or using machine learning algorithms to estimate  $K_{OA}$  based on a series of chemical descriptors.

##### 3.1.1. Thermodynamic triangles

$K_{OA}$  can be derived from other properties using thermodynamic triangles [see Fig. 1 and Eqs. (9) and (10)]. The two property values used in such an estimation should ideally be experimentally derived. If they are themselves estimated values, the uncertainty of their prediction propagates to  $K_{OA}$ .

Most estimations of  $K_{OA}$  reported in the literature are derived using Eq. (10), using either experimental or estimated values of  $K_{OW}$  and  $K_{AW}$ . This can be a useful estimation method for chemicals with well-established  $K_{OW}$  and  $K_{AW}$  values. However, Finizio *et al.* (1997) already noted that six  $K_{OA}$  values estimated this way were between 0.48 and 1.04  $\log_{10}$  units smaller than experimental values, which may be related to the estimation yielding wet octanol-air partition ratio ( $K'_{OA}$ ) (see Sec. 1.1.5). Meylan and Howard (2005) conducted the first comprehensive assessment of this technique for estimating  $K_{OA}$  using  $K_{OW}$  and  $K_{AW}$ . They also explored the temperature dependence of  $K_{OA}$  by combining a temperature-adjusted  $K_{AW}$  value with the  $K_{OW}$  of a chemical at 25 °C and using  $K_{AW}$  and  $K_{OW}$  values estimated with EPISuite™'s HENRYWIN and KOWWIN (Meylan and Howard, 2005). This estimation technique is what is used in the KOAWIN model included in EPISuite™ (EPI Suite Data, 2012).

The use of Eq. (9) is less common but advantageous as it does not yield a  $K_{OA}$  value. Abraham *et al.* (2001) presented the  $K_{OA}$  of some chemicals derived from measured  $P_L$  and  $S_O$ . Sepassi and Yalkowsky (2007) used  $P_L$  and  $S_O$  estimated from other physical-chemical properties of a compound, including boiling-point temperature and enthalpy of boiling. Best *et al.* (1997) applied a combination of Eqs. (6) and (10) to estimate  $\Delta G_{OA}^{\circ}$  using  $\Delta G_{AW}^{\circ}$  and  $\log_{10} K_{OW}$ .

**TABLE 2.** Summary of the different techniques used to obtain estimated  $K_{OA}$  values, including the  $K_{OA}$  and temperature ranges of the values reported in the database

Type of technique	Method	$n$	$\log_{10} K_{OA}$ range	Temperature range ( $^{\circ}C$ )	References
QSPRs	Thermodynamic triangles	1297	-3.0–30.2	10–25	Abraham <i>et al.</i> (2001), Best <i>et al.</i> (1997), Finizio <i>et al.</i> (1997), Hiatt (1997); Kurz and Ballschmiter (1999), Meylan and Howard (2005), Odabasi <i>et al.</i> (2006a), Raevsky <i>et al.</i> (2006), Sepassi and Yalkowsky (2007), and Zhang <i>et al.</i> (2016)
	Regression models	5454	-0.4–29.1	-50–50	Abraham <i>et al.</i> (2005), Chen <i>et al.</i> (2003a; 2002a; 2003c; 2003b; 2002b; 2001; 2016), Cousins and Mackay (2000), Duffy and Jorgensen (2000), Ferreira (2001), Jiao <i>et al.</i> (2014), Jin <i>et al.</i> (2017), Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016), Li <i>et al.</i> (2006), Liu <i>et al.</i> (2013), Mathieu (2020), Nabi <i>et al.</i> (2014), Oliferenko <i>et al.</i> (2004), Papa <i>et al.</i> (2009), Puzyn and Falandysz (2005), Vikas and Chayawan (2015), Wang <i>et al.</i> (2008), Xu <i>et al.</i> (2007), Yuan <i>et al.</i> (2016), Zeng <i>et al.</i> (2013), Zhang <i>et al.</i> (2016), and Zhao <i>et al.</i> (2005)
	UPPER	182	1.2–15.6	25	Lian and Yalkowsky (2014) and Yalkowsky <i>et al.</i> (1994b)
	UNIFAC	73	0.4–2.4	25	Dallas (1995)
	Machine learning	22	7.4–12.2	25	Jiao <i>et al.</i> (2014)
Solvation models		3719	-1.2–28.4	-5–40	Best <i>et al.</i> (1997), Dallas (1995), Fu <i>et al.</i> (2016), Giesen <i>et al.</i> (1997), Li <i>et al.</i> (1999; 2020), Nedyalkova <i>et al.</i> (2019), Parnis <i>et al.</i> (2015), Zhang <i>et al.</i> (2016), Zhu <i>et al.</i> (1998)

Many works report  $K_{OA}$  values calculated using thermodynamic triangles or estimated using EPISuite<sup>TM</sup> [e.g., Alarie *et al.* (1995), Sührling *et al.* (2016), Tamaru *et al.* (2019), and Xu *et al.* (2014)]. We have elected to not include all these  $K_{OA}$  values. When we did include  $K_{OA}$  values obtained through thermodynamic triangles in the database, we also report the original source of the two property values in the property table (see Sec. 4.2.5).

### 3.1.2. Regression models

Numerous regression models for predicting  $K_{OA}$  exist, most frequently restricted in applicability to a specific set of closely related compounds, such as the polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and naphthalenes (PCNs) or the polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs). The models differ based on the compound group, the type of regression, and the source and type of chemical descriptors. The statistical techniques applied include ordinary or MLRs, partial least-squares models, and principal component regression models. Some models also incorporate temperature into the regression analysis (Chen *et al.*, 2003c; 2003b; 2002b; Jin *et al.*, 2017; and Li *et al.*, 2006). Tables 2 and 3 include a list of the  $K_{OA}$  models whose predictions are included in the database and the parameterization as described in this paper.

### 3.1.3. UPPER

The Unified Physical Property Estimation Relationship (UPPER) model by Yalkowsky *et al.* (1994a) uses the thermodynamic triangle between  $K_{OA}$ ,  $P_L$ , and  $S_O$  [Eq. (9)]. Molecular descriptors are obtained from the structure of a chemical using additive-group contribution estimations or the geometry of the structure (Lian and Yalkowsky, 2014). The descriptors are then used to derive basic physical–chemical properties (referred to as component properties, including melting and boiling points), which allow for the calculation of  $K_{OA}$ ,  $K_{AW}$ , and  $K_{OW}$  (Yalkowsky *et al.*, 1994a).

### 3.1.4. UNIFAC

The UNIFAC model estimates  $\gamma_o^{\infty}$  with an additive fragment-based approach with group–interaction parameters (Fredenslund *et al.*, 1975). It also considers the volume, surface area, and the number of different groups present in the solute (Fredenslund *et al.*, 1975). Dallas (1995) used UNIFAC to estimate  $K_{OA}$  and compare it to direct measurements and the MOSCED model (see Sec. 3.2). This author also compared the performance of the UNIFAC model with an infinite-dilution activity based UNIFAC model, which uses calculated interaction parameters using activity coefficients at infinite dilution, and a modified

**TABLE 3.** A list of all the regression models whose  $K_{OA}$  predictions are included in the database. MLR: stepwise multiple linear regression models; OLS: ordinary least squares; PCR: principal component regression; PLS: partial least squares; SLR: single linear regression; and MC: Monte Carlo. Note that some of these papers referenced utilize existing models with new descriptors to obtain novel  $K_{OA}$  values

Compound class	Regression method	Descriptors	References
Methyl and alkyl substituted naphthalenes	MLR	Abraham descriptors	Abraham <i>et al.</i> (2005)
Methyl and alkyl substituted naphthalenes	MLR <sup>a</sup>	Abraham descriptors	Abraham <i>et al.</i> (2005)
PCDD/Fs	PLS	MOPAC descriptors	Chen <i>et al.</i> (2001)
PCBs	PLS	MOPAC descriptors	Chen <i>et al.</i> (2002a)
PCDD/Fs	PLS	MOPAC descriptors	Chen <i>et al.</i> (2002b)
PCNs, CBz	PLS	MOPAC descriptors	Chen <i>et al.</i> (2003a)
PCBs	PLS	MOPAC descriptors, theoretical descriptors (CS ChemOffice)	Chen <i>et al.</i> (2003b)
PBDEs	PLS	MOPAC descriptors, theoretical descriptors (CS ChemOffice)	Chen <i>et al.</i> (2003c)
PCBs	PLS	CoMFA	Chen <i>et al.</i> (2016)
PCBs	PLS	CoMSIA	Chen <i>et al.</i> (2016)
Phthalate esters	SLR	LeBas molar volume	Cousins and Mackay (2000)
Simple diverse compounds	MC and MLR	Total solvent-accessible surface area, solute-solvent Coulomb energy, hydrophobic SASA, number of solute as donor hydrogen bonds	Duffy and Jorgensen (2000)
PAHs	PLS	Electronic descriptors (MOPAC), topological descriptors [see Ferreira (2001) for equations], geometric descriptors [Sanders and Wise Database, see Ferreira (2001) for equations]	Ferreira (2001)
PBDEs	MLR	Molecular distance-edge vector indexes	Jiao <i>et al.</i> (2014)
POPs, other hydrocarbons	MLR	Abraham descriptors	Jin <i>et al.</i> (2017)
PCDDs	SLR	Molecular descriptors <sup>b</sup>	Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)
POPs	MLR	Fragment constant approach	Li <i>et al.</i> (2006)
PBDEs	PLS	CoMFA	Liu <i>et al.</i> (2013)
PBDEs	PLS	CoMSIA	Liu <i>et al.</i> (2013)
Diverse compounds	MLR	Additive approach using geometric fragments <sup>c</sup>	Mathieu (2020)
Nonpolar organic compounds	MLR	Abraham descriptors	Nabi <i>et al.</i> (2014)
Nonpolar organic compounds	MLR	CODESSA PRO QSAR software and hydrogen bonding descriptor	Nabi <i>et al.</i> (2014)
PBDEs, other hydrocarbons	OLS	DRAGON descriptors	Papa <i>et al.</i> (2009)
PCNs	PCR	Quantum-chemical descriptors (GAUSSIAN 03), topological descriptors (DRAGON)	Puzyn and Falandysz (2005)
PCDD/Fs	SLR	Quantum-chemical descriptors <sup>b</sup>	Vikas and Chayawan (2015)
PBDEs	MLR	Quantum-chemical based structural parameters (Gaussian98)	Wang <i>et al.</i> (2008)
PBDEs	MLR	Electrostatic potential indices (MOPAC and Gaussian98), physicochemical properties (TSAR)	Xu <i>et al.</i> (2007)
PCBs	MLR	DRAGON descriptors	Yuan <i>et al.</i> (2016)
PCBs	PLS	HQSAR descriptors	Yuan <i>et al.</i> (2016)
PCDDs	MLR	Quantum-chemical based structural parameters (Gaussian98)	Zeng <i>et al.</i> (2013)
Pesticides	MLR	Abraham descriptors <sup>d</sup>	Zhang <i>et al.</i> (2016)
CBz	MLR	Molecular connectivity indexes	Zhao <i>et al.</i> (2005)
PAHs	MLR	Molecular connectivity indexes	Zhao <i>et al.</i> (2005)
PBDES	MLR	Molecular connectivity indexes	Zhao <i>et al.</i> (2005)
PCDD/Fs	MLR	Molecular connectivity indexes	Zhao <i>et al.</i> (2005)
PCNs	MLR	Molecular connectivity indexes	Zhao <i>et al.</i> (2005)

<sup>a</sup>For wet-octanol.<sup>b</sup>Multiple models using different descriptors are presented in the papers and included in the database.<sup>c</sup>Coefficients for each fragment (characteristic temperature) are obtained via MLR.<sup>d</sup>Uses the ABSOLV model from ACD/Labs.



UNIFAC model that combines the original and the infinite-dilution activity based UNIFAC models. A summary of publicly available group-interaction parameters can be obtained from the UNIFAC Consortium webpage ([http://unifac.ddbst.de/unifac\\_.html](http://unifac.ddbst.de/unifac_.html)). Note that within the database, we include estimates that directly report  $K_{OA}$  or include a  $P_L$  for the calculation of  $K_{OA}$ . Papers that only report a UNIFAC-estimated  $\gamma_{\infty}^{\circ}$  are not included [e.g., [Castells et al. \(1999\)](#), [Eikens \(1993\)](#), and [Li et al. \(1995\)](#)].

### 3.1.5. Machine learning

While machine learning algorithms resemble regression models in that they use descriptors to predict  $K_{OA}$ , they differ in the approach to correlating the different variables. [Jiao et al. \(2014\)](#) created an artificial neural network model that uses molecular distance-edge vector index descriptors to predict  $K_{OA}$ . The model is designed to have the smallest RMSE for the validation set ([Jiao et al. 2014](#)).

The OPERA model ([Mansouri et al., 2018](#); [Mansouri and Williams, 2017](#)) is also a QSAR model developed using machine learning. OPERA uses the  $k$ -nearest neighbor approach and PaDEL descriptors for the number of hydrogen bond donor and the hexadecane-air partition ratio to estimate  $K_{OA}$ . While estimates from OPERA are not included in the database, these values are easily obtained from the CompTox Dashboard ([Williams et al., 2017](#)) or the model can be downloaded from GitHub (<https://github.com/kmansouri/OPERA>).

### 3.2. Solvation models

Solvation models estimate the  $\Delta G_i^{\circ}$  of a chemical in a solvent  $i$ . The difference of  $\Delta G_i^{\circ}$  in octanol and the gas phase can be used to estimate  $\Delta G_{OA}^{\circ}$ , which, in turn, can be used to estimate  $K_{OA}$  ([Nedyalkova et al., 2019](#)). Such models have been applied to estimate  $K_{OA}$  of a wide range of chemicals, and numerous variations of models for estimating  $\Delta G_{OA}^{\circ}$  exist in the literature. The information

included in the database is limited to models that have been specifically designed to estimate  $\Delta G_{OA}^{\circ}$  and to predictions made during the comparison and assessment of these solvation estimation techniques. A subset of universal solvation models that estimate  $\Delta G^{\circ}$  for various air–solvent interactions are also considered. Specifically, this includes estimates from MOSCED (Modified Separation of Cohesive Energy Density) ([Thomas and Eckert, 1984](#)) and various universal solvation models [e.g., [Best et al. \(1997\)](#)].

The MOSCED model estimates  $\Delta G_i^{\circ}$  in a solvent as the difference between the cohesive energy density of the pure phase and the solution ([Thomas and Eckert, 1984](#)). The SM8AD and SMD models are universal solvation models that solve for the electrostatic contribution using either the generalized Born approximation with asymmetric de-screening (SM8AD) ([Marenich et al., 2009a](#)) or the nonhomogeneous Poisson equation (SMD) ([Marenich et al., 2009b](#)). These models can be parameterized using different density functionals, which can produce slightly different results ([Nedyalkova et al., 2019](#)). Multiple variations of these solvation models for multiple solvents exist, and we have included a selection of estimates, such as [Best et al. \(1997\)](#), [Duffy and Jorgensen \(2000\)](#), [Giesen et al. \(1997\)](#), [Li et al. \(1999\)](#), and [Zhu et al. \(1998\)](#). While there are very likely far more universal solvation models for  $\Delta G_{OA}^{\circ}$  in the literature, we have included only selected estimates in the database because these models often merely improve upon previous iterations of the SM-AD and SMD models and predict the  $\Delta G_{OA}^{\circ}$  for sets of chemicals that also have experimental  $\Delta G_{OA}^{\circ}$  values.

The CONductor-like Screening Model for Realistic Solvents (COSMO-RS) software suite can also be used to estimate  $K_{OA}$  for chemicals [e.g., [Parnis et al. \(2015\)](#)]. COSMO-RS applies quantum chemical density functional theory and statistical thermodynamics to derive  $\Delta G^{\circ}$  values ([Klamt et al., 2009](#)). [Endo and Hammer \(2020\)](#) introduced a fragment contribution model for extrapolating COSMO-RS predicted  $K_{OA}$  for short-chain chlorinated paraffins, which reduces calculation times.

**TABLE 4.** MLR models for predicting  $K_{OA}$ , which have not been included in the database because no  $K_{OA}$  estimates are published directly

Chemical specificity	Regression method	Descriptor	References
POPs	PLS	Quantum chemical descriptors	<a href="#">Chen et al. (2004)</a>
Diverse compounds	PLS	Quantum chemical descriptors (DRAGON)	<a href="#">Fu et al. (2016)</a>
Diverse compounds	PLS	Atom-centered fragments (DRAGON)	<a href="#">Fu et al. (2016)</a>
Chlorinated compounds	MLR	Molecular polarizabilities and multipole moments (GAUSSIAN 98)	<a href="#">Staikova et al. (2004)</a>
PCNs	MLR	Abraham descriptors	<a href="#">Abraham and Al-Hussaini (2001)</a>
<i>N</i> -nitrosodialkylamines	MLR	Abraham descriptors	<a href="#">Abraham and Al-Hussaini (2002)</a>
Diverse compounds	MLR	Abraham descriptors	<a href="#">Abraham and Acree (2008)</a>
Diverse compounds	MLR	Abraham descriptors	<a href="#">Abraham et al. (2008)</a>
Diverse compounds	MLR	Abraham descriptors	<a href="#">Endo and Goss (2014)</a>
Diverse compounds	MLR	General treatment of solute–solvent interactions (GSSI) descriptors	<a href="#">Deanda et al. (2004)</a>
PCNs	PLS	MOPAC and 3D-HoVAIF descriptors	<a href="#">Li et al. (2012)</a>
Organophosphorus compounds	MLR	Abraham descriptors	<a href="#">Abraham and Acree (2013)</a>



### 3.3. Other models for estimating $K_{OA}$

Another tool for estimating  $K_{OA}$  is SPARC Performs Automated Reasoning in Chemistry's online physicochemical calculator (SPARC) (available at <http://archemcalc.com/>). The details on how exactly SPARC works are not widely available. However, it is noted that linear free energy relationships are used to estimate thermodynamic properties such as  $K_{OA}$  (Hilal *et al.*, 2003). While SPARC has been applied repeatedly to estimate  $K_{OA}$  (Zhang *et al.*, 2016), the calculated  $K_{OA}$  values are not often reported [e.g., Stenzel *et al.* (2014) and Wang *et al.* (2012)]. We only include  $K_{OA}$  estimates from SPARC in the database if they are compared to experimental values or other estimates; thus,  $K_{OA}$  values reported in papers such as Weschler and Nazaroff (2010) have not been included.

Some other publications on  $K_{OA}$  estimation models, including various MLR models such as poly-parameter linear free-energy relationships (ppLFERs), COSMOtherm (Klamt, 2018; 2011), and OPERA (Mansouri *et al.*, 2018), do not always report the estimated  $K_{OA}$  values. Thus,  $K_{OA}$  estimates made with these approaches are not included in the database. In addition, there are published MLR models for predicting  $K_{OA}$  that do not report estimated  $K_{OA}$  values and thus are not included in the database; a summary of these models is included in Table 4.

Some models have been designed to estimate the temperature dependence of  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  for a series of compounds. For example, the model by Yang *et al.* (2018) estimates the temperature dependence of  $K_{OA}$  for PBDEs. Mintz *et al.* (2008; 2007) published two ppLFERs using Abraham descriptors to estimate  $\Delta H_{OA}^\circ$  of a wide range of chemicals.

## 4. $K_{OA}$ Data

### 4.1. Data collection

This database includes all measured or estimated  $K_{OA}$  values that we could locate in the literature using the Web of Science using variations of the keywords: *Octanol-air partition coefficient* ( $K_{OA}$ ), *octanol-gas partition coefficient*, *Ostwald coefficient octanol*, and *Gibbs free energy octanol*. References were also found by looking up citations included in the identified papers. A total of 112 literature sources were found to contain  $K_{OA}$  data. Forty-seven sources included estimated  $K_{OA}$  values, while 70 contained measured values. The database incorporates 209  $K_{OA}$  values from three dissertation theses (Cheong, 1989; Dallas, 1995; and Özcan, 2013). While a large portion of the work by Dallas (1995) was published in Abraham *et al.* (2001) and Dallas and Carr (1992), a portion of  $K_{OA}$  estimates from this thesis are not available in the peer-reviewed literature. To the best of our knowledge,  $K_{OA}$  data from Cheong (1989) and Özcan (2013) have not been published in the peer-reviewed literature. The search was limited to publications written in English, although articles containing  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  estimates have also been published in other languages [e.g., Zhang *et al.* (2005) and Zou *et al.* (2005)].

We have included the error of a measurement or estimation in the database. We have also noted where the  $K_{OA}$  reported is for a mixture of isomers or the chemical structure is ambiguous [e.g., Harner and Bidleman (1998), Kömp and McLachlan (1997), and Vuong *et al.* (2020)]. In some instances where a single paper has

reported more than one  $K_{OA}$  using different techniques, we note which technique or value was recommended by the authors [e.g., Su *et al.* (2002)].

### 4.2. Database structure

The database is provided in a Microsoft Excel workbook and as an R package. The data are stored in seven distinct tables (Fig. 3) to allow users to sort and filter the data based on various criteria, including author, publication year, and measurement or estimation technique.

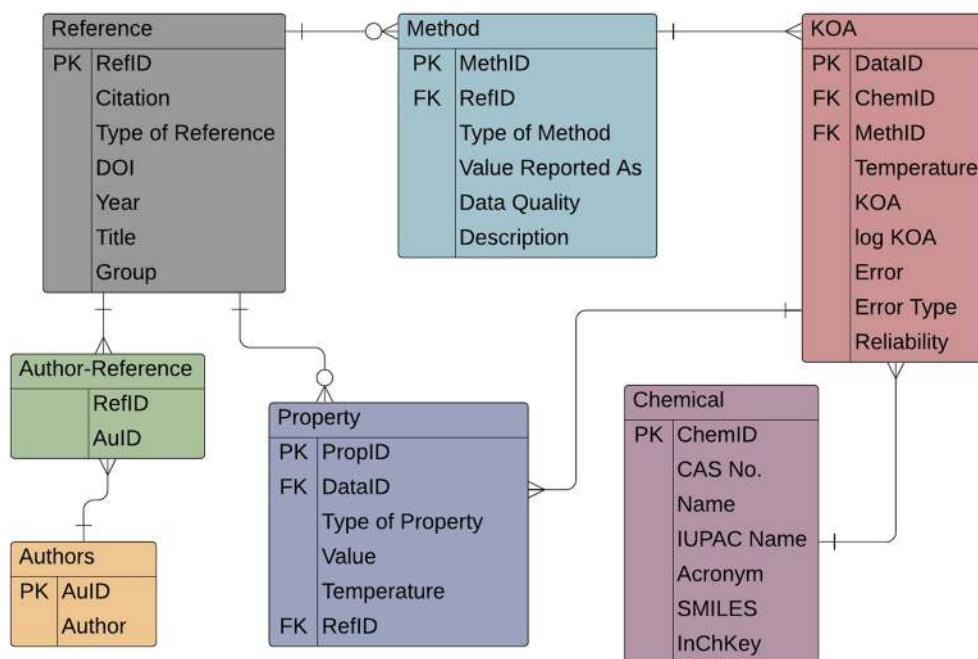
The Chemical Table provides information regarding the name, CAS number, SMILES notation, and other chemical identifiers for each solute. Each unique chemical is associated with a chemical identification number within the database (chemID). Similarly, each unique literature source and author are assigned a unique identifier in the Reference Table (refID) and Author Table (auID). The Author-Reference Table is used to connect the information presented in both. Each method for predicting or estimating  $K_{OA}$  within a paper is also assigned a unique identifier (methID). The Property Table contains the  $P_L$ ,  $\gamma_{oct}$ ,  $K_{AW}$ ,  $K_{OW}$ , and  $\Delta G^\circ$  values originally reported in the paper in SI units (with the exception of  $\Delta G^\circ$ , which is in  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ ) and used to calculate the  $K_{OA}$ ; each value is assigned a propID. Finally, the  $K_{OA}$  values are reported in the  $K_{OA}$  Table, with each datapoint uniquely associated with a dataID.

#### 4.2.1. Chemical table

The QSAR-ready SMILES notation for the 1643 compounds with literature data was taken from EPA's CompTox Dashboard (Williams *et al.*, 2017) or PubChem (Kim *et al.*, 2017) or, if none were available, created using ChemDraw. CAS numbers and names of chemicals were verified using both SciFinder and the CompTox Dashboard. Canonical SMILES for compounds were produced using Open Babel (version 3.00) (O'Boyle *et al.*, 2011). We also include the IUPAC name, common name, common acronym, and alternative names and acronyms for each chemical. The list of names for each compound is not exhaustive, and we recommend searching for chemicals using their CAS number. We also group chemicals into over 50 broad categories, including PCBs, PBDEs, PCNs, amines, ketones, and so on. This categorization of chemicals is also non-exhaustive as many chemicals may fall into more than one group. Within the database, each chemical is assigned a unique identifier, a chemID. In some instances, the  $K_{OA}$  of a mixture of two or more chemicals is also reported, these mixtures are also given a unique chemID, and the CAS number and the identifying information for all chemicals in the mixture are included.

#### 4.2.2. $K_{OA}$ table

$K_{OA}$  data are stored in the  $K_{OA}$  Table. Each  $K_{OA}$  value is assigned a unique identifier (dataID), which is associated with a specific chemical (chemID) and method (methID). For each  $K_{OA}$  value, we also include the temperature of the measurement, any errors reported for the measurement, and comments or notes for the datapoint. The comments indicate if the  $K_{OA}$  reported is for an isotopically labeled species or if any typo corrections and assumptions were made during the data curation process of the original work.



**FIG. 3.** A relational schematic representation of the  $K_{OA}$  database. PK denotes a primary key, which is unique to a specific table. FK denotes a foreign key, which indicates how the data in the different tables are connected.

#### 4.2.3. Methods and reference table

Each reference is stored in the Reference Table and assigned a unique identifier (refID). Some references may report or compare the results of different  $K_{OA}$  measurement or experimental techniques; therefore, a single reference can be associated with multiple experimental and estimation techniques. Each technique from each reference is also assigned a unique identifier (methID). Different measurement and estimation techniques have been employed and published at different times over the past few decades, which is shown in Fig. SI 7 in the [supplementary material](#).

#### 4.2.4. Property table

In Sec. 1.1, we discussed the different ways  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  has been reported in the literature. The Property Table (dark blue table, Fig. 3) includes the data originally reported in the literature in standardized units, except  $\Delta G^\circ$ , which is reported in units of  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ . This includes converting all reported  $k_H$  values to  $K_{AW}$  for convenience. Each property value within the database is associated with exactly one  $K_{OA}$  datapoint in the main  $K_{OA}$  Table; however, a single  $K_{OA}$  datapoint may be associated with more than one property value. Each property datapoint is associated with a chemical (chemID), method (methID), reference (refID), and  $K_{OA}$  value (dataID). There are 2228 dataIDs that are associated with 3723 propIDs. Figure SI 4 shows the distributions of the different property data included in the database.

#### 4.3. Quality of the reporting

Each technique and method (i.e., methID) for determining and reporting  $K_{OA}$  values was assigned a score based on whether

- (i) the method is an estimation or empirical technique,
- (ii) the description of the used methodology is sufficiently detailed,
- (iii) some analysis of the methods is provided (including, e.g., their possible limitations and scope), and
- (iv) an error of the  $K_{OA}$  value is reported and/or whether an external validation of the  $K_{OA}$  value was performed.

Each factor is weighted equally, and the papers are thus scored from 0 to 4. The point assigned for each factor is binary, and thus, there are no half points allocated. These points are only ascribed to method, description, analysis, and error of the reported  $K_{OA}$  value. For example, a method from a paper about empirical measurements of  $K_{OA}$ , providing a detailed description and analysis of the methodology and the error of the prediction, will have a score of 4, whereas a thermodynamic triangle method without any additional details or analysis will have a score of 1. Based on this categorization, a total of 36 methods scored 4, 81 methods scored 3, 32 methods scored 2, and 14 methods scored 1. Note that we define each method as having a unique identifier (methID). Figure SI 2 shows the distribution of the scores across the  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  range for experimental and estimated data.

#### 4.4. $K_{OA}$ data

The database contains 13 264  $K_{OA}$  values for 1643 different chemicals between  $-50$  and  $110^\circ\text{C}$ . Of these, 2517 values (19%) are experimentally derived and 10 747 values (81%) are estimated (Fig. 4). Notably, the data are bimodally distributed with respect to  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$ , with one maximum between  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  2 and 4 and a

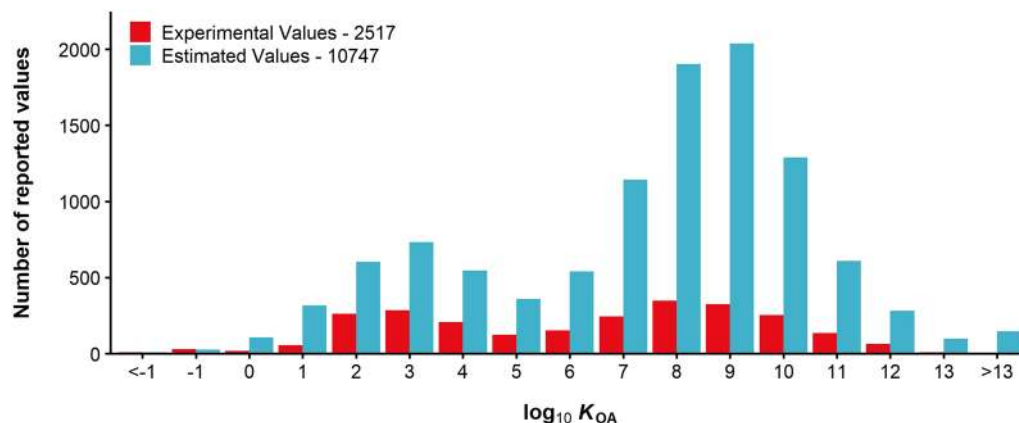


FIG. 4. Distribution of all experimental and estimated  $K_{OA}$  values included in the database.

second between  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  6 and 11. If we consider only measurements or estimates made at 25 °C, the peaks become even more pronounced (Fig. SI 1). These peaks are a result of the difference in the applicability range of the different measurement techniques. Many estimation techniques require a set of  $K_{OA}$  data to develop and train new models, so the distribution of estimated  $K_{OA}$  values follows a similar pattern.

#### 4.5. Measured $K_{OA}$ values

There are 2517 measured  $K_{OA}$  values in the database for 704 chemicals. Of these, 1524 are directly measured values, while 993 are obtained by indirect measurements using chromatographic retention time techniques. The highest and lowest determined  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values are  $-1.8$  and  $+14$  for helium (CAS No. 7440-59-7) and trichloro-benzo[a]pyrene (CAS No. 97303-27-0), respectively. Most of the reported values (52%) are for  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values between 6 and

11, followed by measurements between 2 and 5 (30%). Few measurements have been reported for chemicals with a  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  less than 2 (4%) or greater than 11 (8%). There is also a drop in the number of measurements between  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  5–6 (4.92%). Most  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values less than 4 are measured directly using static techniques, while dynamic or indirect techniques were used to measure  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values greater than 6 [Fig. 6, Panel (a)]. Approximately, a quarter (26.2%) of measurements in the database were obtained using static techniques, a third (34.2%) using dynamic techniques, and 39.4% using indirect techniques. Figure 5 displays in more detail the  $K_{OA}$  range in which different static and dynamic techniques have been applied.

There are 924  $K_{OA}$  values (37%) for 573 chemicals at 25 °C, and most measurements (51%) are made within the 20–30 °C range. There are relatively more measurements made at high temperatures ( $>30$  °C) when  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  is less than 3, presumably to extend the

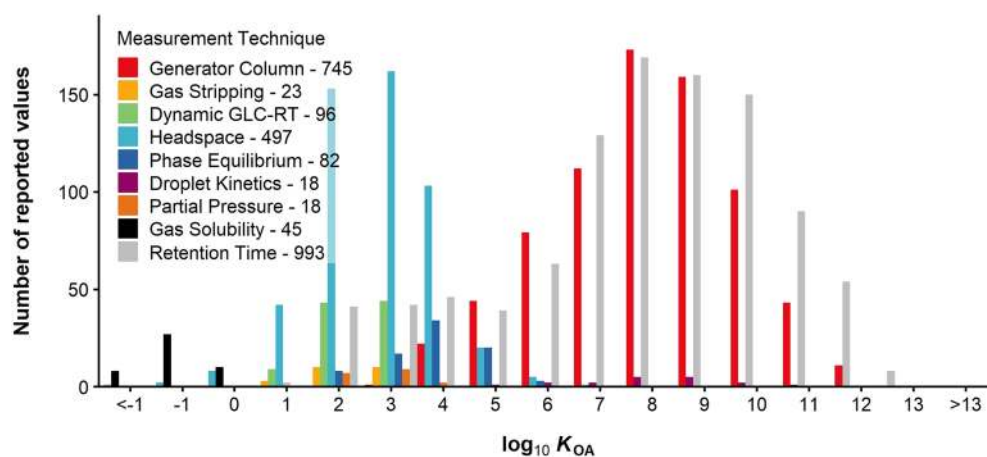


FIG. 5. Distribution of different methods used across a  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  range of  $<-1$  to  $>13$ . The generator column, gas stripping, and dynamic GLC-RT are dynamic techniques. Headspace, phase equilibrium, droplet kinetics, partial pressure, and gas solubility methods are static techniques.

**TABLE 5.** A summary of all papers and techniques reporting experimental  $K_{OA}$  values that are included in the database, including the type of methodology and the  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  and temperature ranges for each method

References	Method	Technique	$n$	$\log_{10} K_{OA}$ range	Temperature range ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	Compound groups
Wilcock <i>et al.</i> 1978	MA	Gas solubility	26	-1.79–0.24	9.3–40.49	Gases
Bo <i>et al.</i> 1993	BN-B	Gas solubility	9	-1.57–0.24	25	Gases
Abraham <i>et al.</i> 2001	HS and GC	Headspace	81	-1.29–5.36	25	Hydrocarbons, halogenated
Boyer and Bircher 1960	Vgas	Gas solubility	5	-0.99–0.42	25	Gases
Taheri <i>et al.</i> 1993	HS Vac	Headspace	6	-0.43–4.36	37	Alkanes
Fang <i>et al.</i> 1997b	HS Vac	Headspace	6	-0.31–1.78	37	Haloalkanes
Pollack <i>et al.</i> 1984	PM	Gas solubility	5	0.27–0.45	10–50	Xenon
Hiatt 1997	VD/GC/MS	Headspace	113	0.48–5.57	25	Hydrocarbons, PAHs, CBz, halogenated, amines, labeled
Taheri <i>et al.</i> 1991	HS Vac	Headspace	7	1.14–2.5	37	Haloalkanes
Ionescu <i>et al.</i> 1994	HS Vac	Headspace	2	1.52–1.73	37	Halogenated compounds
Ionescu <i>et al.</i> 1994	HS Vac	Headspace	2	1.56–1.78	37	Halogenated compounds
Lei <i>et al.</i> 2019	VPHS	Headspace	78	1.58–4.4	25–110	Various hydrocarbons
Gruber <i>et al.</i> 1997	GLC-RT	GLC-RT	96	1.63–3.92	20.29–50.28	Alkanes, alkenes, cyclic, arenes, alcohols
Fukuchi <i>et al.</i> 2001	GS	Gas stripping	4	1.65–2.12	10–40	Haloethers
Eger <i>et al.</i> 2001	HS Vac	Headspace	4	1.75–2.51	37	Haloalkanes, haloarenes
Dallas 1995	HS and GC	Headspace	75	1.75–5.36	25	Simple hydrocarbons
Bhatia and Sandler 1995	GLC-RT	Retention time	32	1.91–3.6	25–50	Haloalkanes, alkanes
Tse and Sandler 1994	GLC-RT	Retention time	15	1.95–3.6	25	Alkanes, Cl and Br alkyl halides
Cheong 1989	HS and GC	Headspace	11	2.02–3.9	25	Alkanes
Eger <i>et al.</i> 1997	HS Vac	Headspace	3	2.13–2.14	37	Isoflurane
Fukuchi <i>et al.</i> 1999	GS	Gas stripping	9	2.16–3.1	10–30	Ether
Berti <i>et al.</i> 1986	PP	Vapor pressure	8	2.16–3.66	25	Simple hydrocarbons
Fang <i>et al.</i> 1996	HS Vac	Headspace	20	2.16–3.87	37	Haloarenes, arenes, cyclic
Fang <i>et al.</i> 1997a	HS Vac	Headspace	5	2.21–6.01	37	Alcohols
Park <i>et al.</i> 1987	HS and GC	Headspace	6	2.53–3.42	25	Simple hydrocarbons
Batterman <i>et al.</i> 2002	HS and GC	Headspace	4	2.55–3.97	37	Halogenated alkanes
Hussam and Carr 1985	HS and GC	Headspace	2	2.59–3.3	25.01	Nitroxy, arene
Rohrschneider 1973	HS	Headspace	6	2.61–3.37	25	Nitromethane, toluene
Su <i>et al.</i> 2002	MR-SC-GC-RT	Retention time	230	2.65–12.39	10–50	PCNs, CBz
Xu and Kropscott 2014	3P-Eqbm	Phase equilibrium	26	2.69–5.68	4.2–35.2	Organosiloxanes
Xu and Kropscott 2013	2P-Eqbm	Phase equilibrium	49	2.71–6.85	-5–40.2	Organosiloxanes
Cabani <i>et al.</i> 1991	PP	Vapor pressure	10	2.75–4.07	25	Simple hydrocarbons
Su <i>et al.</i> 2002	MR-GC-RT	Retention time	110	2.86–11.31	10–50	PCNs, CBz
Dallas and Carr 1992	HS and GC	Headspace	11	2.87–5.18	25	Alcohols

TABLE 5. (Continued)

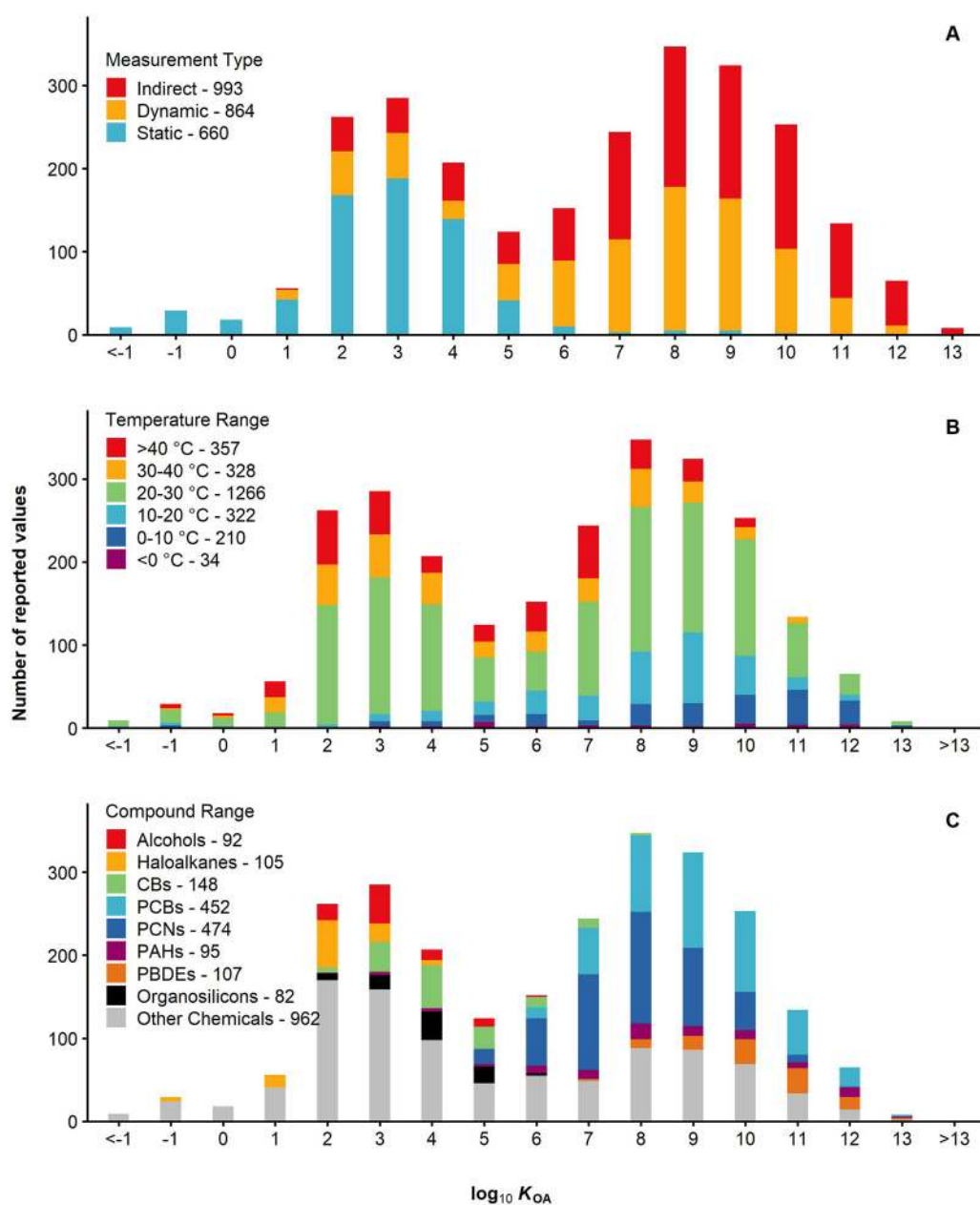
References	Method	Technique	<i>n</i>	log <sub>10</sub> <i>K</i> <sub>OA</sub> range	Temperature range (°C)	Compound groups
Roberts 2005	Bubbler	Gas stripping	5	2.92–3.39	0–25	Peroxyacetyl nitrate
Su <i>et al.</i> 2002	MR-GC-RT	Retention time	78	2.99–11.28	10–50	PCNs, CBz
Eger <i>et al.</i> 1999	HS Vac	Headspace	19	3–5.99	37	Alcohols, FTOHs
Treves <i>et al.</i> 2001	SPME	Headspace	9	3.03–7.88	25	Alkyl dinitrates, Alkyl nitrates, chlorobenzenes, PAHs
Eger <i>et al.</i> 1999	HS Vac	Headspace	19	3.06–6.01	37	Alcohols, FTOHs
Lei <i>et al.</i> 2004	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	12	3.19–7.09	25	Fluorinated
Leng <i>et al.</i> 2015	Bubbler	Gas stripping	5	3.45–3.85	5–25	Triethylamine
Hiatt 1998	VD/GC/MS	Headspace	8	3.68–4.28	25	Terpenes
Dreyer <i>et al.</i> 2009	FM	Generator column	52	3.99–6.95	5–40	FTAs, FOSA, FOSE
Thuens <i>et al.</i> 2008	FM	Generator column	37	4.1–6.79	5–40	FTOHs
Xu and Kropscott 2012	2P-Eqbm	Phase equilibrium	4	4.29–6.4	20.1–24.6	Organosiloxanes
Harner and Mackay 1995	FM	Generator column	60	4.36–11.83	–10–25	CBz, PCBs, DDT
Xu and Kropscott 2012	3P-Eqbm	Phase equilibrium	3	4.4–5.72	21.7–24.6	Organosiloxanes
Goss <i>et al.</i> 2006	FM	Generator column	11	4.8–6.72	0–25	FTOHs
Yaman <i>et al.</i> 2020	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	14	5.15–11.78	25	OPEs
Ha and Kwon 2010	droplet kinetics	Droplet kinetics	10	5.37–10.48	25	PAHs
Harner and Bidleman 1998	FM	Generator column	159	6.09–10.62	0–50	PAHs, PCNs
Zhang <i>et al.</i> 1999	MR-GC-RT	Retention time	208	6.09–13.36	0–20	PCBs
Odabasi <i>et al.</i> 2006a	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	14	6.34–12.59	25	PAHs
Özcan 2013	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	11	6.43–8.77	25	Musks
Kömp and McLachlan 1997	FM	Generator column	96	6.52–10.66	10–43	PCBs
Okeme <i>et al.</i> 2020	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	49	6.59–11.44	25	PCBs, musk, PAHs, DDTs, other hydrocarbons
Harner and Bidleman 1996	FM	Generator column	86	6.64–12.57	–10–30	PCBs
Wania <i>et al.</i> 2002	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	45	6.78–12.15	25	PBDEs, PCBs, PCNs
Wania <i>et al.</i> 2002	FM	Generator column	8	6.95–8.93	5–45	Alkanes
Pegoraro <i>et al.</i> 2015	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	8	7–11.18	25	Phthalates, cinnamate
Shoeib and Harner 2002b	FM	Generator column	112	7.38–11.38	5–45	OCPs
Harner <i>et al.</i> 2000	FM	Generator column	57	7.4–11.66	0–50	PCDD/Fs, PCB
Shoeib <i>et al.</i> 2004	FM	Generator column	12	7.44–8.8	0–25	PFAS
Wang <i>et al.</i> 2017	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	14	7.55–13.5	25	Organophosphates
Zhang <i>et al.</i> 2009	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	7	7.61–9.87	25	DDT, HCH
Odabasi <i>et al.</i> 2006b	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	2	7.68–8.03	25	PAH, carbazole
Yao <i>et al.</i> 2007	FM	Generator column	4	7.93–8.88	20	Pesticides
Vuong <i>et al.</i> 2020	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	34	8.06–13.98	25	PAHs
Shoeib and Harner 2002a	MR-GC-RT	Retention time	16	8.12–10.8	23	PCBs
Zhao <i>et al.</i> 2010	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	29	8.3–13.29	25	PBDEs
Chen <i>et al.</i> 2001	RTI	Retention time	29	8.36–12.05	25	PCDD/Fs
Odabasi and Cetin 2012	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	7	8.41–10.57	25	Cyclodienes
Zhao <i>et al.</i> 2009	SR-GC-RT	Retention time	12	8.5–12.7	10–25	FTOHs, PFASs
Harner and Shoeib 2002	FM	Generator column	51	8.52–12.64	15–45	PBDEs
Lee and Kwon 2016	droplet kinetics	Droplet kinetics	8	8.85–11.01	25	BFRs
Harner <i>et al.</i> 2000	RTI	Retention time	17	10.9–13	7	PCDD/Fs



applicability of static techniques to somewhat less volatile chemicals. More surprisingly, there are also relatively more measurements at cooler temperatures ( $<20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) when  $\log_{10} K_{\text{OA}}$  is greater than 7 [Fig. 6, Panel (b)]. This is likely because many of those less volatile chemicals are environmental contaminants and the partitioning behavior at environmentally relevant temperatures is of

primary interest. Measurements in the  $\log_{10} K_{\text{OA}}$  range between 7 and 10 have been made at the most diverse range of temperatures.

The types of chemicals for which directly measured  $K_{\text{OA}}$  values have been reported are shown in Table 5. Chemicals with measured  $\log_{10} K_{\text{OA}}$  values greater than 6 are generally persistent organic pollutants, including CBz, PCBs, PAHs, PCNs, and PBDEs



**FIG. 6.** Distribution of experimentally derived  $\log_{10} K_{\text{OA}}$  values included in the database. Each panel shows the distribution based on the experimental technique used [Panel (a)], the temperature range of the reported value [Panel (b)], and common classes of chemicals with measured  $K_{\text{OA}}$  values [Panel (c)].

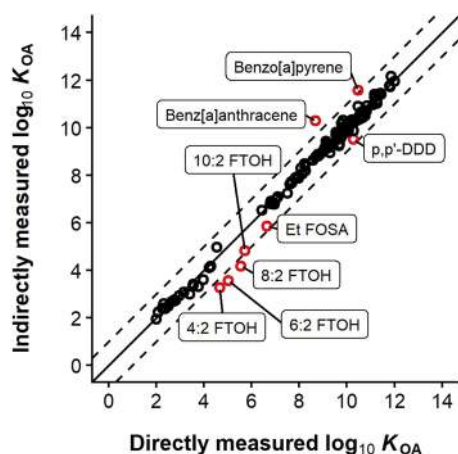


FIG. 7. Plot of directly versus indirectly measured  $K_{OA}$  for compounds for which values from both techniques exist. The solid line indicates a one-to-one relationship, while dashed lines represent  $\pm 1$ .

[Fig. 6, Panel (c)]. There is greater diversity among the chemicals with low measured  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values, including simple hydrocarbons such as alkanes, alkenes, cyclic hydrocarbons, haloalkanes, alcohols, and organosilicons. Measurements of  $K_{OA}$  for small, volatile molecules are often motivated by explorations of basic partitioning behavior (Abraham *et al.*, 2001) or methodological issues (e.g., Lei *et al.*, 2019). At the very low  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  range ( $<1$ ) are typically short chain alkanes, noble gases, and inorganic gases [e.g., xenon (CAS No. 7440-63-3) and carbon monoxide (CAS No. 630-08-0)].

#### 4.6. Reliability of $K_{OA}$ measurements

A subset of experimental  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  data was assessed to be unreliable. These measurements were made for polar compounds using a gas chromatography retention time (GC-RT) technique. Figure 7 compares  $K_{OA}$  values obtained using GC-RT methods against directly measured values, if they are available. While there is generally very good agreement between the reported values, some notable exceptions become apparent.  $K_{OA}$  values for a series of fluorotelomer alcohols (FTOHs) measured with the GC-RT technique are much lower than those measured using the generator column technique. We suspect that the GC-RT measurements are erroneous due to the high polarity of these compounds and their ability to undergo hydrogen bonding. These compounds would be expected to interact much more strongly with octanol than with the non-polar GC column used, particularly relative to hexachlorobenzene (CAS No. 118-74-1), the reference compound used in the study (Lei *et al.* 2004). Thus, when measured with GC-RT,  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  for such chemicals tend to be too low.

Large discrepancies are also apparent for benz[a]anthracene (CAS No. 56-55-3) and benzo[a]pyrene (CAS No. 50-32-8), where  $K_{OA}$  values from the GC-RT techniques (Odabasi *et al.* 2006a) are much higher compared to those obtained with the droplet kinetics technique (Ha and Kwon 2010). In Fig. SI 3, we compare the measurements made using the droplet kinetics technique against other experimental measurements for the same compounds. The  $K_{OA}$  for benz[a]anthracene by Ha and Kwon (2010) is almost an order of magnitude smaller than most other measured and estimated values for this compound. On the other hand, the value obtained by GC-RT is within 0.5  $\log_{10}$  units of estimates using solvation models (Fu *et al.* 2016), the UPPER model (Lian and Yalkowsky 2014), and thermodynamic triangles (Sepassi and Yalkowsky 2007). The  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  for benzo[a]pyrene by Ha and Kwon (2010) is also lower than almost all other reported values. The GC-RT derived  $K_{OA}$  for both PAHs is in excellent agreement with the final adjusted value derived by Ma *et al.* (2010). In addition, as these PAHs are relatively

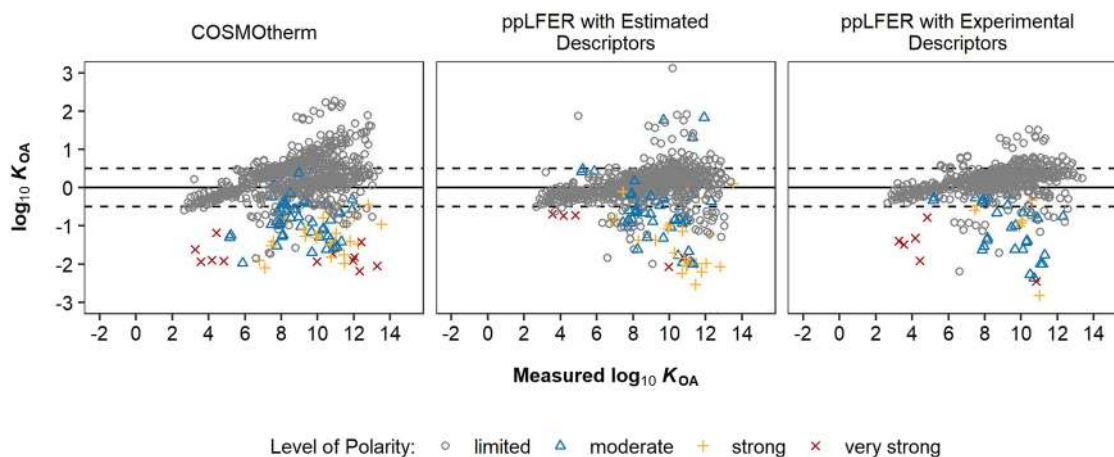
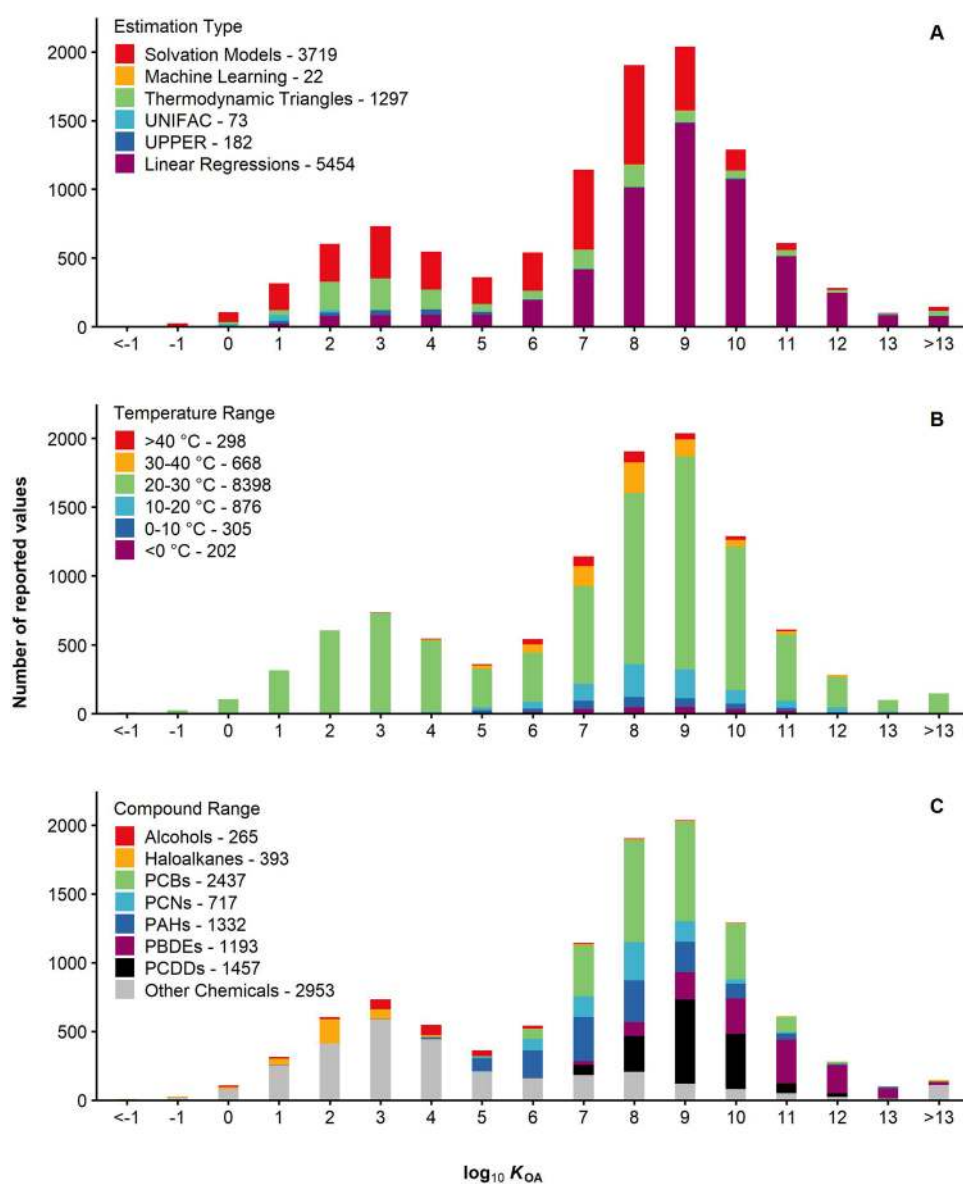


FIG. 8. Comparing the indirectly measured  $K_{OA}$  values against estimates made using ppLFER equations (Endo and Goss 2014) with estimated and experimental solute descriptors and COSMOtherm. Gray circles indicate limited polarity ( $aA + bB < 0.5$ ), blue triangles indicate moderate polarity ( $0.5 < aA + bB < 1$ ), yellow + indicate strong polarity ( $1 < aA + bB < 2$ ), and red Xs indicate very strong polarity ( $aA + bB > 2$ ). The dashed lines indicate a residual of  $\pm 0.5 \log_{10}$  units between the experimental and estimated value.

non-polar, the GC-RT technique should be applicable and, in any case, not lead to  $K_{OA}$  values that are too high. We therefore suspect that in this case, the values reported by Ha and Kwon (2010) are more likely to be erroneous than the GC-RT values.

There are many more GC-RT-derived  $K_{OA}$  values without complementary directly measured values. To identify other potentially flawed values, we compared the GC-RT measured value with predictions made by three different prediction models. Figure 8 displays the residuals between predicted and GC-RT measured values, whereby chemicals are color-coded by the strengths of their H-bonding with octanol. The latter is quantified as  $aA + bB$ ,

where  $A$  and  $B$  are the Abraham solute descriptors for hydrogen bonding acidity and basicity of the solute and  $a$  and  $b$  are the respective system constants from the poly-parameter linear free energy equation for  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  by Endo and Goss (2014). Experimental solute descriptors were obtained using the UFZ-LSER Database (Ulrich *et al.* 2017); if experimental solute descriptors were unavailable, estimated solute descriptors were obtained using the IFSQSAR model developed by Brown and available on GitHub (<https://github.com/tnbrowncontam/ifsqsar>) (Brown 2014; Brown *et al.* 2012).



**FIG. 9.** Distribution of estimated  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values included in the database. Each panel shows the distribution based on the estimation technique [Panel (a)], the temperature range of the reported value [(Panel (b))], and common classes of chemicals where estimated  $K_{OA}$  values exist [(Panel (c))].

**TABLE 6.** A summary of all papers and techniques that report estimated  $K_{OA}$  values included in the database, including the type of methodology and the  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  and temperature ranges for each method. The chemical classes used are not included as estimation models are not all intended for specific compound groups

References	Method	Technique	$n$	$\log_{10} K_{OA}$ range	Temperature range (°C)	Compound groups
Abraham <i>et al.</i> (2001)	Triangle	Thermodynamic triangles	23	4.46–9.59	25	PAHs, CBz, Hydrocarbons
Abraham <i>et al.</i> (2005)	MLR	Linear regressions	21	5.52–7.67	25	Methyl and alkyl substituted naphthalenes
Abraham <i>et al.</i> (2005)	MLR	Linear regressions	21	5.52–7.85	25	Methyl and alkyl substituted naphthalenes
Best <i>et al.</i> (1997)	Triangle	Thermodynamic triangles	66	–3.02–7.55	25	Diverse compounds
Best <i>et al.</i> (1997)	OPLS	Solvation models	63	–0.6–6.51	25	Diverse compounds
Best <i>et al.</i> (1997)	MMFF	Solvation models	66	0.05–6.66	25	Diverse compounds
Chen <i>et al.</i> (2001)	PLS	Linear regressions	33	7.08–12.46	25	PCDD/Fs
Chen <i>et al.</i> (2002a)	PLS	Linear regressions	57	7.4–11.66	–50–0	PCDD/Fs
Chen <i>et al.</i> (2002b)	PLS	Linear regressions	210	5.61–12.29	25	PCBs
Chen <i>et al.</i> (2003a)	PLS	Linear regressions	52	8.33–13.26	15–45	PBDEs
Chen <i>et al.</i> (2003b)	PLS	Linear regressions	97	6.73–12.76	–10–30	PCBs
Chen <i>et al.</i> (2003c)	PLS	Linear regressions	31	4.47–10.11	25	PCNs, CBz
Chen <i>et al.</i> (2016)	PLS	Linear regressions	208	6.3–12	25	PCBs
Chen <i>et al.</i> (2016)	PLS	Linear regressions	208	6.64–12.56	25	PCBs
Cousins and Mackay (2000)	LR	Linear regressions	22	7.01–13.01	25	Phthalate esters
Dallas (1995)	MOSCED	Solvation models	39	0.09–1.93	25	Simple hydrocarbons
Dallas (1995)	UNIFAC	UNIFAC	73	0.4–2.38	25	Simple hydrocarbons
Duffy and Jorgensen (2000)	MC	Linear regressions	85	–0.21–7.38	25	Simple diverse compounds
Ferreira (2001)	PLS	Linear regressions	16	5.01–14.09	25	PAHs
Finizio <i>et al.</i> (1997)	Triangle	Thermodynamic triangles	32	6.68–11.19	25	CBz, PCBs, DDT, PAHs, HCH
Fu <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SM8AD	Solvation models	376	–0.65–12.78	25	PCNs, PBDEs, PCBs, DDT, other hydrocarbons
Fu <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SM8AD	Solvation models	376	–0.65–12.78	25	PCNs, PBDEs, PCBs, DDT, other hydrocarbons
Giesen <i>et al.</i> (1997)	SM5.4/PM3	Solvation models	31	0.07–5.35	25	Diverse compounds
Giesen <i>et al.</i> (1997)	SM5.4/AMI	Solvation models	30	0.44–5.43	25	Diverse compounds
Hiatt (1997)	Triangle	Thermodynamic triangles	113	0.3–6.7	25	Hydrocarbons, PAHs, CBz, halogenated, amines, labeled
Jiao <i>et al.</i> (2014)	ANN	Machine learning	22	7.38–12.23	25	PBDEs
Jiao <i>et al.</i> (2017)	MLR	Linear regressions	22	7.4–12.26	25	PBDEs
Jin <i>et al.</i> (2017)	MLR	Linear regressions	98	4.63–11.5	–10–50	PAHs, CBz, PCNs, PCBs, PBDEs, PCDDs, etc.

TABLE 6. (Continued)

References	Method	Technique	<i>n</i>	log <sub>10</sub> K <sub>OA</sub> range	Temperature range (°C)	Compound groups
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	7.28–12.07	25	PCDDs
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	7.33–12.11	25	PCDDs
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	7.33–12.11	25	PCDDs
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	7.33–12.11	25	PCDDs
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	7.33–12.11	25	PCDDs
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	7.33–12.11	25	PCDDs
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	7.38–12.14	25	PCDDs
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	7.51–12.26	25	PCDDs
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	7.59–12.11	25	PCDDs
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	7.59–12.34	25	PCDDs
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	7.6–12.3	25	PCDDs
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	7.74–12.26	25	PCDDs
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	8.33–12.19	25	PCDDs
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	76	8.33–12.19	25	PCDEs
Kurz and Ballschmiter (1999)	Triangle	Thermodynamic triangles	107	6.33–9.13	25	Diverse compounds
Li <i>et al.</i> (1999)	SM5.4/PM3	Solvation models	192	–1.24–10.98	25	Diverse compounds
Li <i>et al.</i> (1999)	SM5.4/AMI	Solvation models	192	–1.24–11.48	25	Diverse compounds
Li <i>et al.</i> (2006)	MLR	Linear regressions	598	3.45–14.54	10–40	PAHs, CBz, PCNs, PCBs, PBDEs, PCDD/Fs
Li <i>et al.</i> (2020)	SMD/HF/MID/16D	Solvation models	836	6.22–10.89	10–30	Diverse compounds
Lian and Yalkowsky (2014)	UPPER	UPPER	170	1.15–15.63	25	Hydrocarbons, PAHs
Liu <i>et al.</i> (2013)	PLS	Linear regressions	39	8.43–13.3	25	PBDEs
Liu <i>et al.</i> (2013)	PLS	Linear regressions	39	8.7–13.29	25	PBDEs
Mathieu (2020)	MLR and PLS	Linear regressions	935	–0.38–13.78	–10–50	Diverse compounds
Meylan and Howard (2005)	Triangle	Thermodynamic triangles	434	–1.14–13.67	10–25	Various hydrocarbons
Nabi <i>et al.</i> (2014)	LFER	Linear regressions	52	4.1–10.56	25	Nonpolar organic compounds
Nabi <i>et al.</i> (2014)	ppLFER	Linear regressions	52	4.12–11.11	25	Nonpolar organic compounds
Nedyalkova <i>et al.</i> (2019)	M11	Solvation models	55	–0.4–7.3	25	Hydrocarbons
Nedyalkova <i>et al.</i> (2019)	B3LYP	Solvation models	55	–0.08–7.65	25	Hydrocarbons
Nedyalkova <i>et al.</i> (2019)	M06-2X	Solvation models	55	1.65–9.1	25	Hydrocarbons
Odabasi <i>et al.</i> (2006a)	Triangle	Thermodynamic triangles	14	6.23–13.67	25	PAHs
Oliferenko <i>et al.</i> (2004)	MLR	Linear regressions	47	–0.15–5.15	25	Aliphatic compounds
Papa <i>et al.</i> (2009)	OLS	Linear regressions	220	6.65–17.97	25	PBDEs, other hydrocarbons
Parnis <i>et al.</i> (2015)	COSMO	Solvation models	1060	4.65–11.57	–5–40	PAHs
Puzyn and Falandysz (2005)	PCR	Linear regressions	75	5.76–11.52	25	PCNs
Raevsky <i>et al.</i> (2006)	Triangle	Thermodynamic triangles	98	–1.11–8.93	25	Hydrocarbons, CBz, PAHs, etc.
Raevsky <i>et al.</i> 2006	Triangle	Thermodynamic triangles	98	–0.75–8.46	25	PAHs, CBz, hydrocarbons



TABLE 6. (Continued)

References	Method	Technique	$n$	$\log_{10} K_{OA}$ range	Temperature range (°C)	Compound groups
Sepassi and Yalkowsky (2007)	Triangle	Thermodynamic triangles	219	1.99–12.99	25	Hydrocarbons, PCBs, CBz, PAHs, etc.
Vikas and Chayawan (2015)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	18	6.66–12.07	25	PCDD/Fs
Vikas and Chayawan (2015)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	18	6.94–12.14	25	PCDD/Fs
Vikas and Chayawan (2015)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	18	7.21–12.25	25	PCDD/Fs
Vikas and Chayawan (2015)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	18	7.21–12.25	25	PCDD/Fs
Vikas and Chayawan (2015)	SLR <sup>a</sup>	Linear regressions	18	7.22–12.15	25	PCDD/Fs
Wang <i>et al.</i> (2008)	MLR	Linear regressions	209	7.38–15.26	25	PBDEs
Xu <i>et al.</i> (2007)	MLR	Linear regressions	209	7.17–15.73	25	PBDEs
Yalkowsky <i>et al.</i> (1994b)	UPPER	UPPER	12	2.74–5.76	25	CBz
Yuan <i>et al.</i> (2016)	PLS	Linear regressions	209	5.7–11.14	25	PCBs
Yuan <i>et al.</i> (2016)	MLR	Linear regressions	209	6.6–11.6	25	PCBs
Zeng <i>et al.</i> (2013)	MLR	Linear regressions	76	7.15–12.25	25	PCDDs
Zhang <i>et al.</i> (2016)	SPARC	Solvation models	93	2.6–28.4	25	Novel flame retardants
Zhang <i>et al.</i> (2016)	Triangle	Thermodynamic triangles	93	4.4–30.2	25	Novel flame retardants
Zhang <i>et al.</i> (2016)	ABSOLV	Linear regressions	93	5.6–29.1	25	Novel flame retardants
Zhao <i>et al.</i> (2005)	MLR	Linear regressions	6	4.44–6.91	25	PCNs
Zhao <i>et al.</i> (2005)	MLR	Linear regressions	4	6.83–8.86	25	CBs
Zhao <i>et al.</i> (2005)	MLR	Linear regressions	24	6.93–10.18	25	PBDES
Zhao <i>et al.</i> (2005)	MLR	Linear regressions	10	7.79–11.68	25	PAHs
Zhao <i>et al.</i> (2005)	MLR	Linear regressions	13	9.4–12.26	25	PCDD/Fs
Zhu <i>et al.</i> (1998)	SM5.42R/BPW91/MIDI16D	Solvation models	192	-1.25–9.93	25	Diverse compounds
Zhu <i>et al.</i> (1998)	SM5.42R/BPW91/6-31G*	Solvation models	192	-1.24–9.91	25	Diverse compounds
Zhu <i>et al.</i> (1998)	SM5.42R/BPW91/DZVP	Solvation models	192	-1.21–9.95	25	Diverse compounds

<sup>a</sup>Different molecular descriptors are used to develop multiple single linear regressions models for  $K_{OA}$ .

GC-RT-derived  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  of hydrogen-bonding chemicals ( $aA + bB > 0.5$ ) have unusually large residuals with all three prediction techniques, suggesting a large bias. Most residuals are negative, implying that the  $K_{OA}$  for such chemicals is biased low, which is consistent with expectations. We conclude that the GC-RT method is unsuitable for measuring the  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  of polar, and especially hydrogen-bonding, chemicals because (i) the interactions between the octanol and the reference chemical are not necessarily comparable to the interactions between octanol and the analyte of interest and (ii) the way the analyte interacts with the stationary phase will not be similar to its interaction with octanol due to the latter's capacity to undergo hydrogen bonding.

Within the database, we have noted which  $K_{OA}$  values obtained by GC-RT techniques may be erroneous due to the high polarity of the chemical.

#### 4.7. Estimated $K_{OA}$ values

The range of 10 747 estimated  $K_{OA}$  values in the literature is much larger than that of the experimentally derived values. The lowest estimated  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  value is  $-3.02$  for propyl nitrile (CAS No. 107-12-0) by Best *et al.* (1997) using a thermodynamic triangle approach based on  $\Delta G_{AW}^{\circ}$  and  $\log_{10} K_{OW}$ . The highest estimated  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  value, 30.20 for 1,2-bis[(2,3,4,5,6-pentabromophenyl)methyl] 3,4,5,6-tetrabromo-1,2-benzenedicarboxylate (CAS No. 82001-21-6) by Zhang *et al.* (2016), was obtained using the thermodynamic triangle approach implemented in EPISuite's KOAWIN.

The general distribution of estimated  $K_{OA}$  values is similar to that of the experimentally derived values, with the majority of estimated values (70%) within the  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  6–12 range (Fig. 9). A large portion of estimated  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values are also in the 2–5 range (17.5%). Fewer estimates are made above  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  13 (3.5%) or below 1 (1.3%). Between  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  5 and 6, there are also few estimates (3.4%).

Half (50.7%) of the estimated values are derived from some form of linear regression, as described in Sec. 3.1.2. Solvation models

for estimating  $K_{OA}$  are also very commonly used (34.6%), followed by thermodynamic triangle estimation techniques (12.0%). Both models are used across a broad  $K_{OA}$  range. Likewise, the UPPER model is not restricted to a specific range of chemicals because it is rooted in principles applied to thermodynamic triangles. However, estimates are not commonly available in the literature, and almost two thirds of published values obtained with UPPER (63.7%) fall within the  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  range between 1 and 5. The UNIFAC model is typically applied to estimate  $K_{OA}$  of volatile chemicals, and thus, reported values range only from 0.4 (tetrahydropyran; CAS No. 142-68-7) to 2.38 (dimethyl sulfoxide; CAS No. 67-68-5). Estimates made using machine learning techniques are limited to the work by Jiao *et al.* (2014) on PBDEs. As methods for estimating physical-chemical properties using neural networks and machine learning are developed further and because these approaches are not limited to a specific subset of chemicals, we expect their estimation range to widen significantly.

Most estimates are for  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  at 25 °C (71.9%). There are 3023 estimated  $K_{OA}$  values for 486 different chemicals at non-standard temperatures, which have been reported by nine publications using either linear regressions, thermodynamic triangles, or solvation models. Linear regression models use temperature-dependent experimental  $K_{OA}$  values for training and validation (Chen *et al.* 2003c, 2003b, 2002b; Li *et al.* 2006; Mathieu 2020). The descriptors for these models are temperature-dependent (e.g.,  $X_i/T$ ) because temperature and  $K_{OA}$  are inversely correlated. Meylan and Howard (2005) estimated the temperature dependence of  $K_{OA}$  from that of  $k_H$ , i.e., ignore the temperature dependence of  $K_{OW}$  during the application of the thermodynamic triangle of Eq. (10). Li *et al.* (2020) estimated a temperature-dependent  $K_{OA}$  by estimating  $\Delta G_{OA}^{\circ}$  at 25 °C using a solvation model and then solving Eq. (6) with different values of  $T$ . The assumption that  $\Delta G_{OA}^{\circ}$  is not strongly temperature-dependent is similar to assuming that  $\Delta U_{OA}$  or  $\Delta H_{OA}$  are weakly temperature-dependent. Some solvation models, such as COSMOtherm, can directly estimate  $\Delta G_{OA}^{\circ}$  at different temperatures (Parnis *et al.* 2015).

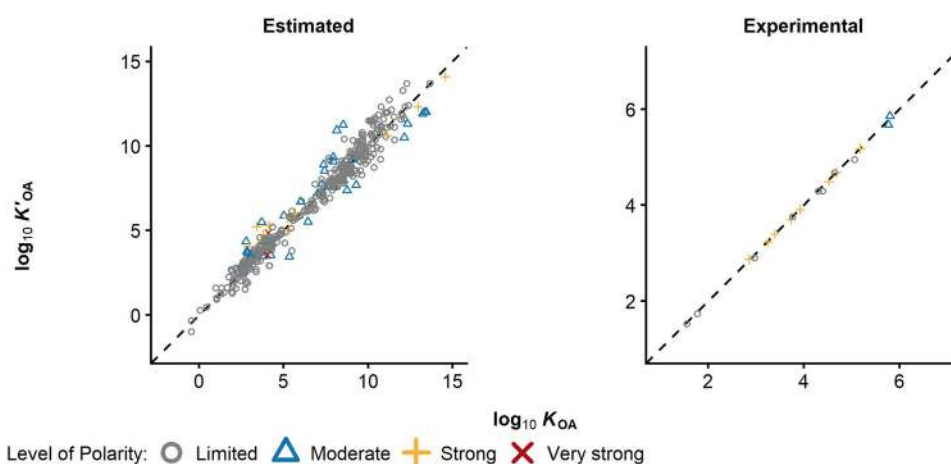


FIG. 10. Comparison of  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  and  $\log_{10} K'_{OA}$  values for the same chemicals at the same temperature. The dashed lines have a slope of 1.

The chemical classes for which  $K_{OA}$  is commonly estimated reflect the availability of experimental data for  $K_{OA}$ . The most commonly estimated  $K_{OA}$  values are for PCBs (22.7%), PCDDs (13.6%), PAHs (12.4%), PBDEs (11.1%), and PCNs (0.7%) within the  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  9–12 range. At the lower range of  $K_{OA}$  values, there are more estimates of alcohols and haloalkanes. There are also  $K_{OA}$  estimates for different CBz, arenes, alkanes, and OPEs. A full list of all methods and papers reporting estimated  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  values is included in Table 6.

#### 4.8. Differences between $K_{OA}$ and $K'_{OA}$

In Sec. 1.1.5, we remarked on the use of wet-octanol in place of dry-octanol. In Fig. 10, we compare the  $K_{OA}$  and  $K'_{OA}$  values for the same chemicals; however, there is no visible difference between the two  $K_{OA}$  values that can be attributed to the polarity of the compound. While there is a limited number of chemicals with both empirically derived  $K_{OA}$  and  $K'_{OA}$  values, the two sets of values are very similar. Estimated  $K_{OA}$  and  $K'_{OA}$  values are also well correlated, and the deviations seen could be attributed more toward differences in the estimation approach rather than the difference between wet- and dry-octanol. The effects of using wet-octanol will likely be more evident for more polar compounds at the higher  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  range, for which data currently is lacking.

#### 5. Conclusions

The earliest  $K_{OA}$  data included in this work was published in 1960 by Boyer and Bircher. Following these first measurements, interest in  $K_{OA}$  waned for almost 30 years, likely due to the difficulty in measuring this property and the lack of direct applicability. In the 1990s,  $K_{OA}$  became of increasing interest due to its applicability in pharmaceutical and environmental chemistry and as technological advances and new analytical techniques were more widely accessible (Figs. SI 5–SI 7). The database assembled here is an effort to catalog the work of various researchers to measure and estimate  $K_{OA}$  and assess the applicability ranges of the different techniques used. The database currently includes 13 264  $K_{OA}$  values for 1643 different chemicals. Of these, 2517  $K_{OA}$  values are experimentally derived and the remaining 10 747 are estimated.

In almost all cases, the development of a new model or estimation technique for  $\log_{10} K_{OA}$  requires good reference data that can be used to train and validate the model. Large training and validation datasets, including diverse chemicals, are necessary to generate robust models. We hope that this database will serve as a basis for new estimation techniques and experimental measurements of  $K_{OA}$  and as a reference dataset.

#### 6. Supplementary Material

See the [supplementary material](#) for additional figures (Figs. SI 1–SI 7—the distribution of data with respect to time, methodology, reliability scores, and additional properties included in the

database). A Microsoft Excel file containing the  $K_{OA}$  database is included.

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#### List of Symbols

Within this work, we utilize a variety of variables and abbreviations. In some cases, the abbreviations have not been explicitly defined in the text. For convenience, we have included all abbreviations and variables here.

#### Variables

$C_A$	concentration in air
$C_O$	concentration in octanol
$C_W$	concentration in water
$k_H$	Henry's law constant in water
$k_H^{oct}$	Henry's law constant in octanol
$k_H'^{oct}$	reciprocal of Henry's law constant in octanol
$K'_{OA}$	wet octanol–air partition ratio
$K_{AW}$	air–water partition ratio
$K_{OA}$	octanol–air partition ratio
$K_{OW}$	octanol–water partition ratio
$L_{oct}$	Ostwald coefficient in octanol
$P_L$	liquid vapor pressure or subcooled liquid vapor pressure
$v_{oct}$	molar volume of octanol
$\gamma_o^\infty$	activity coefficient at infinite dilution in octanol
$\Delta G^\circ$	Gibbs free energy
$\Delta G_{OA}^\circ$	Gibbs free energy of solvation in octanol
$S_O$	solubility in octanol

#### Compounds/compound groups

BFRs	brominated flame retardants
CBz	chlorobenzenes
DDT	dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane
FOSA	perfluorinated alkyl sulfonamides
FOSE	perfluorinated sulfonamido ethanols
FTAs	fluorotelomer acrylates
FTOHs	fluorotelomer alcohols
HCH	hexachlorocyclohexane
OCPs	organochlorine pesticides
OPEs	organophosphate esters
POPs	persistent organic pollutants
PAHs	polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
PBDEs	polybrominated diphenyl ethers
PCBs	polychlorinated biphenyls
PCDD/Fs	polychlorinated dibenzodioxins and polychlorinated dibenzofurans
PCDDs	polychlorinated dibenzodioxins
PCDEs	polychlorinated diphenyl ether

PCDFs	polychlorinated dibenzofurans
PCNs	polychlorinated naphthalenes
PFASs	per/poly-fluoroalkyl substances
VOCs	volatile organic compounds

### Experimental/estimation techniques

2P-Eqbm	two-phase equilibrium technique
3P-Eqbm	three-phase equilibrium technique
ABSOLV	ACD/ABSOLV program from ACD/Labs
ANN	artificial neural network
B3LYP	parameterization condition of a solvation model
BN-B	Ben-Naim/Baer-type apparatus
CoMFA	comparative molecular field analysis
CoMSIA	comparative molecular similarity indices analysis
COSMO	conductor-like screening model
Dynamic	dynamic techniques
FM	fugacity meter or generator column
GasSol	gas solubility
GC-RT	gas chromatography retention time
GLC-RT	gas-liquid chromatography retention time
GS	gas stripping
HS	headspace
HS and GC	headspace with gas chromatography
HS Vac	headspace with vacuum
LFER	linear free energy relationship
LR	linear regression
M06-2X	parameterization condition of a solvation model
M11	parameterization condition of a solvation model
MA	modified Morrison-Billett apparatus
MC	Monte Carlo analysis
MCI <sub>s</sub>	molecular connectivity indexes
MLR	multiple linear regression
MMFF	parameterization condition of a solvation model
MOSCED	modified separation of cohesive energy density model
MR-GC-RT	multi reference gas chromatography retention time
MR-SC-GC-RT	multi reference, single column, gas chromatography retention time
OLS	ordinary least squares
OPLS	optimized potentials for liquid simulations force field—the parameterization used in the continuum solvation model
PCR	principal component regression
PLS	partial least squares
PM	photomultiplier
ppLFER	poly-parameter linear free energy relationships

PP	partial pressure technique
QSARs	quantitative structure–activity relationships
QSPRs	quantitative structure–property relationships
RT	retention time
RTI	retention time index
SC-GC-RT	single reference, gas chromatography retention time
SLR	single linear regression
SM5.4/AM1	parameterization condition of a solvation model
SM5.4/PM3	parameterization condition of a solvation model
SM5.42R/BPW91/6-31G*	parameterization condition of a solvation model
SM5.42R/BPW91/DZVP	parameterization condition of a solvation model
SM5.42R/BPW91/MIDI!6D	parameterization condition of a solvation model
SM8AD	parameterization condition of a solvation model
SMD/HF/MIDI!6D	parameterization condition of a solvation model
SPARC	SPARC performs automated reasoning in chemistry, software by ARChem
SPME	solid phase microextraction
SR-GC-RT	single reference, gas chromatography retention time
Triangle	thermodynamic triangle techniques
UNIFAC	UNIQUAC functional-group activity coefficients
UNIQUAC	universal quasichemical
UPPER	unified physical property estimation relationship
VD/GC/MS	vacuum distillation gas chromatography mass spectrometry
V <sub>gas</sub>	Van Slyke–Neill blood gas apparatus
VPHS	variable phase ratio

## 7. Data Availability

The data that support the findings of this study are openly available on GitHub (<https://github.com/sivanibaskaran/koadata>) and are available within its [supplementary material](#).

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