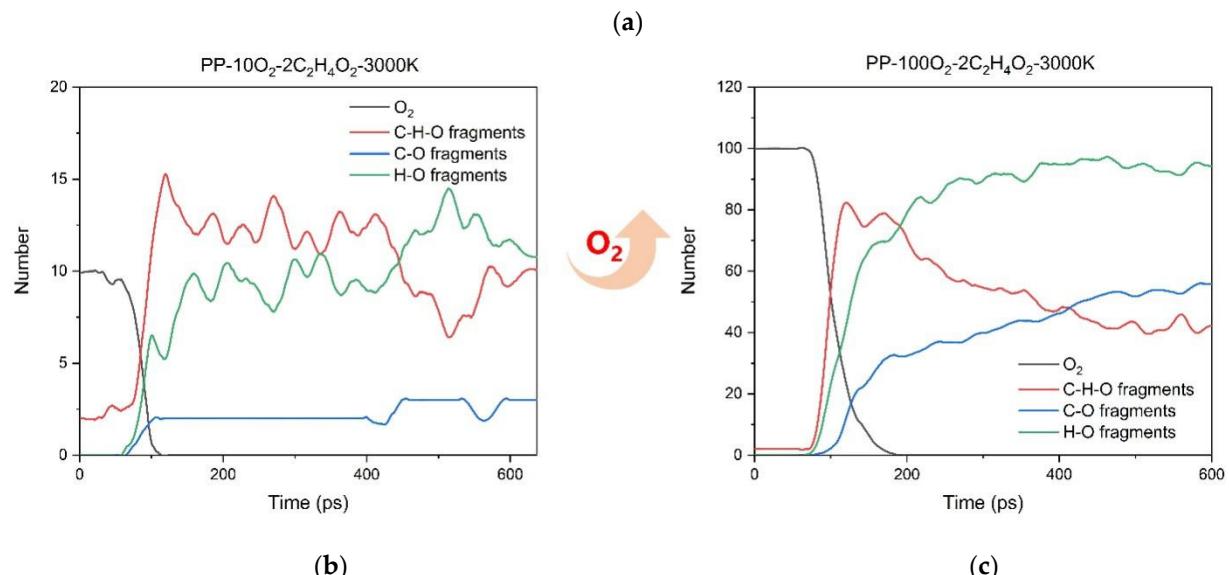
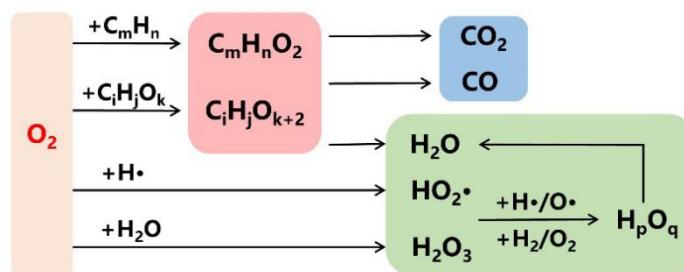


## Supplementary Information

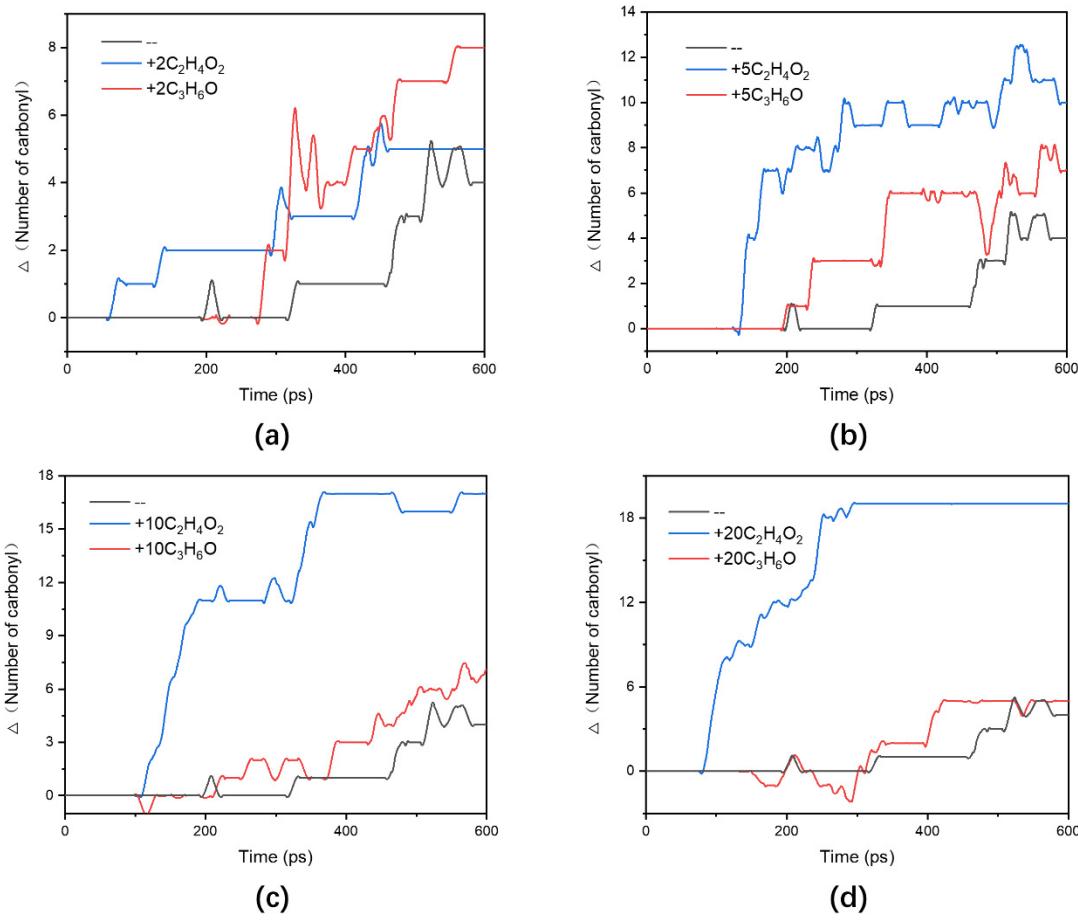
# How small molecules affect the thermo-oxidative aging mechanism of polypropylene: A reactive molecular dynamics study

Fan Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Yufei Cao<sup>1</sup>, Xuan Liu<sup>1</sup>, Huan Xu<sup>1</sup>, Diannan Lu<sup>1,\*</sup> and Rui Yang<sup>1,\*</sup>

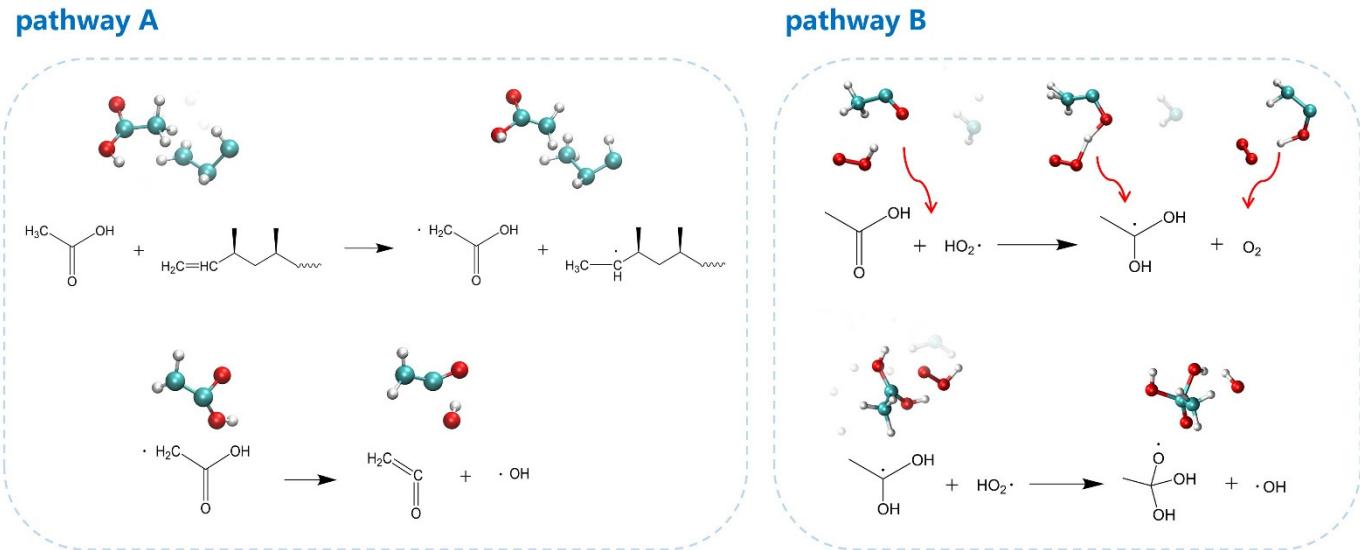
<sup>1</sup> Department of Chemical Engineering, Tsinghua University, Beijing 100084, China



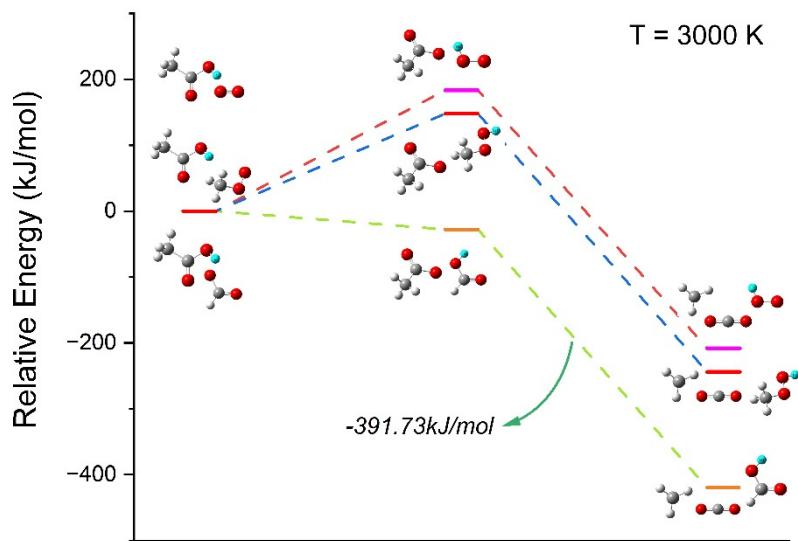
**Figure S1.** (a) Consumption ways of O<sub>2</sub> at PP aging system; Distribution of oxygen-containing fragments at: (b)PP-10O<sub>2</sub>-2C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-3000 K (c)PP-100O<sub>2</sub>-2C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-3000 K



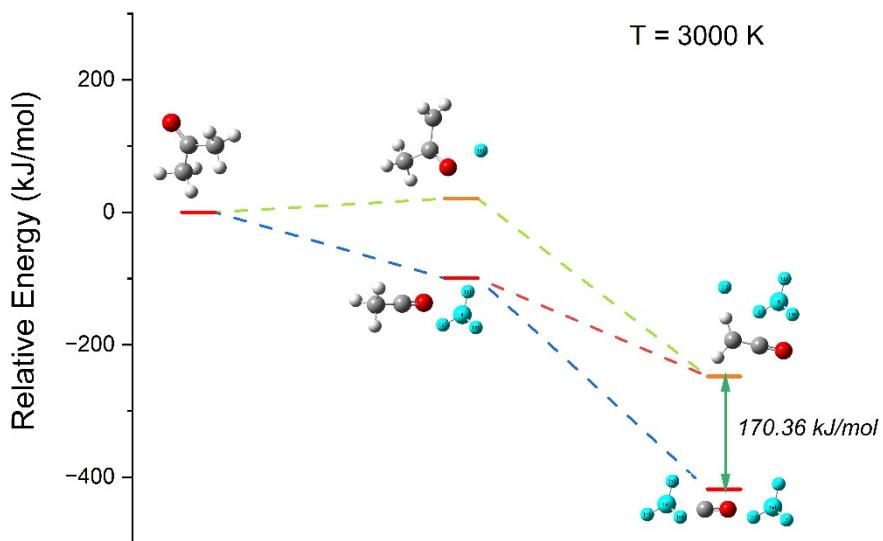
**Figure S2.** Evolution of the change of carbonyl number with time when the number of acetic acid / acetone added to the model was (a)2; (b)5; (c)10; (d)20.



**Figure S3.** Other reaction paths for acetic acid



**Figure S4.** Gibbs free energy change for typical acetic acid reactions



**Figure S5.** Gibbs free energy change for typical acetone reactions

**Table S1.** Proportion of the final products

T/K	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	C10+	Not C	Total
2000	17.9%	6.9%	46.1%	5.9%	4.9%	4.9%	2.0%	1.0%	0	5.9%	4.9%	102
2500	28.8%	26.1%	17.0%	5.9%	3.3%	3.3%	1.3%	0	0	2.6%	11.8%	153
3000	30.2%	29.0%	8.3%	5.3%	2.4%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	3.0%	19.5%	169

**Table S2.** The formation method of CO and H<sub>2</sub>O in the system with 100 O<sub>2</sub>

Product	Generation ways	The proportion of generation way	Reactions
CO	CO breaks away from C-H-O fragments <sup>1</sup> (C≥2)	60.5%	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O → CO + C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>3</sub> ·
	H atom breaks away from CHO·	26.3%	CHO· → CO + H ·
	C-H-O fragments(C=1) break down into CO and H <sub>m</sub> O	13.2%	CHO· + H <sub>2</sub> O → CO + H <sub>3</sub> O ·
H <sub>2</sub> O	H <sub>2</sub> O breaks away from C-H-O fragments	74.4%	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> O → H <sub>2</sub> O + C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ·
	H atom breaks away from H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	9.3%	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> + C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> → H <sub>2</sub> O + C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O
	Other H <sub>m</sub> O <sub>n</sub> fragments decompose	16.3%	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> → H <sub>2</sub> O + O <sub>2</sub>

<sup>1</sup> C-H-O fragments: Fragments containing the elements carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen

**Table S3.** Calculation results of ΔG at different temperatures for the generation reactions of H<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub> and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>

Reaction	ΔG (kJ/mol)					
	298.15 K	383.15 K	1600 K	2000 K	2400 K	3000 K
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> · → H <sub>2</sub> + C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>7</sub> ·	166.76	141.30	2.15	-42.82	-86.99	-151.86
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> · → CH <sub>4</sub> + C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ·	90.36	80.03	-89.60	-130.38	-168.66	-194.15
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> · → C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> + C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ·	53.31	39.29	-152.59	-212.01	-270.13	-355.31

**Table S4.** Calculation results of ΔG at different temperatures for the typical reactions of acetic acid

Reaction	ΔG (kJ/mol)		
	298.15 K	383.15 K	3000 K
CH <sub>3</sub> COOH + O <sub>2</sub> → CH <sub>3</sub> COO · + HO <sub>2</sub> ·	268.18	265.44	183.48
CH <sub>3</sub> COOH + CHO <sub>2</sub> · → CH <sub>3</sub> COO · + CH <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	-14.66	-15.12	-27.90
CH <sub>3</sub> COOH + CH <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> · → CH <sub>3</sub> COO · + CH <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	124.41	124.44	147.77
CH <sub>3</sub> COO · → CO <sub>2</sub> + CH <sub>3</sub> ·	-101.61	-111.26	-391.73

**Table S5.** Calculation results of ΔG at different temperatures for the typical reactions of acetone

Reaction	ΔG (kJ/mol)		
	298.15 K	383.15 K	3000 K
CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> → CH <sub>3</sub> CO · + CH <sub>3</sub> ·	311.21	297.77	-99.44
CH <sub>3</sub> CO · → CH <sub>2</sub> CO + H ·	143.08	134.99	148.47
CH <sub>3</sub> CO · → CO + CH <sub>3</sub> ·	10.11	-0.53	-318.83
CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> → CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>2</sub> · + H ·	366.30	356.69	20.55
CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>2</sub> · → CH <sub>2</sub> CO + CH <sub>3</sub> ·	87.99	76.06	268.45