Supplement of

Ship plumes in the Baltic Sea Sulfur Emission Control Area: chemical characterization and contribution to coastal aerosol concentrations

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Frequency distribution of the individual contributions of ship plumes

Figure S1: Calculated mass concentration contribution from ship plume particle emissions during the winter measurement campaign in Falsterbo. Mass concentration is given in PM$_{0.5}$ and the frequency of ships with different PM$_{0.5}$ contribution is given in intervals of 50 ng m$^{-3}$. The inserted plot shows a more detailed resolution of the lowest mass concentration bin.

Figure S2: NO$_2$ concentration contribution from ship plume emissions during the winter measurement campaign in Falsterbo. The frequency of ships with different NO$_2$ contributions is given in intervals of 0.5 µg m$^{-3}$.
Oxidation flow reactor

OH exposure in the reactor was calibrated off-line, using the decay of SO$_2$ (Mao et al., 2009). Using calibration parameters, a function using measured RH, temperature and ozone concentration was used to calculate OH exposure during the field campaign, in a similar manner to Ortega et al. (2013). In our campaign, only one UV lamp was used. By changing the voltage of the lamp, together with naturally changing absolute humidity, a range of ozone and OH exposures was achieved. Ozone was 2-10 ppm and OH exposure was 0.7-2.5·$10^{11}$ molecules cm$^{-3}$ s. This translates to about 0.5-2 days of aging in the atmosphere assuming an average OH concentration of 1.5·$10^6$ molecules cm$^{-3}$ (Mao et al., 2009). This OH exposure is low in comparison to previous OFR campaigns. With higher OH exposure, losses are expected to increase due to fragmentation and evaporation from an increased temperature in the reactor (Lambe et al., 2015; Ortega et al., 2016; Palm et al., 2016a).

Particle diffusion losses of different sizes in the reactor was calculated from the SMPS measurements before and after the PAM was connected, during a two-day period when the reactor lamps were turned off (Figure S3). In general, losses in the reactor are low, with almost no losses at sizes above 100 nm in mobility diameter. From ~40-100 nm penetration is about 90%. The loss data for particles smaller than 40 nm is noisy since ambient concentrations at these sizes were in general low. Because the penetration is high where the ambient particle volume concentration was highest, the average volume losses were on the order of a few percent with an average penetration of 0.99 ±0.03 (one standard deviation).

To assess what portion of low-volatile organic compounds (LVOCs) that condensed onto particles in the reactor, the model of Palm et al. (2016b) was used. This model compares the lifetimes of condensation onto particles with wall loss, fragmentation (approximated as reacting 5 times with OH) and residence time of the reactor. The condensation sink was estimated as an average of ambient and reactor size distributions. The wall loss rate was estimated at 0.02 s$^{-1}$ and a reaction rate with OH of 1·$10^{-11}$ cm$^3$ molecules$^{-1}$ s$^{-1}$. Fractional losses can be seen in figure S4.

On several occasions, (see Figure 4) the OFR processing led to an increase in the mass concentration as measured by the AMS, and as estimated mass concentration from the SMPS distributions. However, while the measured (by AMS) and estimated (from SMPS data) mass concentrations were in good agreement when the OFR was bypassed, OFR processing increased the former more than the latter (see Figure S5). This is possibly due to changes in AMS sensitivity, specifically the collection efficiency (CE) due to particle bounce of the vaporizer. We have applied a CE of 0.5 throughout the dataset.
Figure S3: Penetration in the reactor as a function of particle size calculated using ambient particle concentrations when the reactor lamps were turned off. Data at the low and high end of the spectrum are noisy due to low ambient particle concentrations.

Figure S4: The fractional fate of LVOCs. The fraction that condenses (F_cond) depends on the condensation sink which was calculated as an average of ambient and reactor output. The fraction lost to fragmentation (F_OH) is calculated using the lifetime for reacting five times with OH. A fraction is lost to the walls of the chamber (F_wall) and the remaining fraction (F_exit) is what penetrates the OFR.
Figure S5: Comparison of the total particulate mass concentration measured by the AMS and estimated mass concentration from the SMPS size distributions during the oxidation flow reactor experiment shown in Fig. 4.

References


