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Iodine monoxide in the Western Pacific marine boundary layer

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Abstract

A latitudinal cross-section and vertical profiles of iodine monoxide (IO) are reported from the marine boundary layer of the Western Pacific. The measurements were taken using Multi-Axis Differential Optical Absorption Spectroscopy (MAX-DOAS) during the TransBrom cruise of the German research vessel *Sonne*, which led from Tomakomai, Japan (42° N, 141° E) through the Western Pacific to Townsville, Australia (19° S, 146° E) in October 2009. In the marine boundary layer within the tropics (between 20° N and 5° S), IO mixing ratios ranged between 1 and 2.2 ppt, whereas in the subtropics and at mid-latitudes typical IO mixing ratios were around 1 ppt in the daytime. The profile retrieval reveals that the bulk of the IO was located in the lower part of the marine boundary layer. Photochemical simulations indicate that the organic iodine precursors observed during the cruise (CH₃I, CH₂I₂, CH₂CI, CH₂Br) are not sufficient to explain the measured IO mixing ratios. Reasonable agreement between measured and modelled IO can only be achieved, if an additional sea-air flux of inorganic iodine (e.g. I₂) is assumed in the model. Our observations add further evidence to previous studies that reactive iodine is an important oxidant in the marine boundary layer.

1 Introduction

Past studies indicated that inorganic iodine may exert considerable influence on the oxidation capacity and particle formation of the marine atmosphere (e.g. Chameides and Davis, 1980; Solomon et al., 1994; Platt and Hönninger, 2003; Saiz-Lopez et al., 2012). Unequivocal evidence for the presence of reactive iodine species and the important role they play in various atmospheric processes have been provided through a suite of ground, ship and satellite-based observations of reactive iodine species (I₂, IO, and OIO) (e.g. Read et al., 2008; Schönhardt et al., 2008; Seitz et al., 2010; Mahajan et al., 2010b) as well as of iodine tied to aerosols (e.g. Burkholder et al., 2004; Hayase et al., 2010; McFiggans et al., 2010) along with supporting modelling studies

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(e.g. von Glasow et al., 2002; Saiz-Lopez et al., 2006, 2012; Sommariva et al., 2012, and references therein).

Past observational studies on atmospheric iodine already covered many areas of the globe, including both polar regions, coastal regions, islands at mid and low-latitudes, and salt lakes (e.g. Saiz-Lopez et al., 2012, and references therein).

Nevertheless, information regarding reactive iodine in the air over the open ocean remained sparse mainly due to a lack of shipborne observations. Table 1 provides an overview of the recent ground-based observations of IO in the troposphere over open ocean, using the DOAS technique. Land-based IO measurements with a strong connection to the ocean have been conducted on several islands. For example at Tenerife, IO mixing ratios up to 3 ppt were observed (Allan et al., 2000) or on the Maldives IO mixing ratios ranging between 2.4 and 3.1 ppt were inferred for assumed boundary layer heights of 1 km and 350 m, respectively (Oetjen, 2009). In addition, on the Cape Verde Islands IO mixing ratios ranging between 1 and 3 ppt were observed with a solar radiation driven diurnal cycle (Read et al., 2008; Mahajan et al., 2010a). Furthermore, in a recent study a latitudinal cross-section of IO was inferred by Mahajan et al. (2012) with maximum IO mixing ratios reaching 1.2 ppt in regions of low biological activity, i.e. in the latitude bands 5° N to 20° N and 20° S to 40° S at around 80° W to 130° W in the Eastern Pacific.

Using the SCIAMACHY satellite instrument, IO was also detected from space, mostly over high southern latitudes and over some biological hot-spot regions (e.g. the African and South American west coasts), where upwelling of nutrient rich waters and tentatively large emissions of iodocarbons occur (Saiz-Lopez et al., 2007; Schönhardt et al., 2008, 2012). However, satellite-based IO remote sensing is limited by the relatively low detection sensitivity, in particular over surfaces with low reflectivity, such as the tropical oceans, where the presence of IO can be suspected. Therefore, more IO measurements covering wider, and yet unexplored oceans, such as the Pacific, are highly desirable, in order to determine the importance of reactive iodine for the photochemistry

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and its potential for aerosol formation in the marine boundary layer (MBL) on a global scale.

Information regarding the vertical distribution of IO is still sparse; the only published IO vertical profiles were inferred from MAX-DOAS measurements at Izaña, Canary Islands (Puentedura et al., 2012). In fact these measurements not only revealed the presence of sizable amounts of IO within the marine boundary layer, but also indicated small amounts in the overlaying free troposphere.

The present paper reports on shipborne MAX-DOAS measurements in the Western Pacific from which a latitudinal cross-section and vertical profiles of IO are inferred. These IO measurements are complemented by sea-to-air flux measurements of the organic iodine precursor gases methyl iodide (CH_3I), chloriodomethane (CH_2ClI), bromiodomethane (CH_2BrI) and diiodomethane (CH_2I_2) and the results of a photochemical model which aim to close the budget of organic and inorganic iodine source strengths, the atmospheric IO abundance and the strength of potential sink processes. It is argued that by adjusting the source strength of the iodocarbons and inorganic iodine, the marine surface air may sustain the detected abundance and vertical profile of IO.

The paper is organised as follows: Sect. 2 gives an overview of the TransBrom *Sonne* cruise in the Western Pacific. In Sect. 3, the major tools and methods of the study are described Sect. 4 reports on the results with respect to the observed and inferred source strengths of organic iodine precursors, the photochemistry of inorganic iodine, and possible correlations with observed IO Section 5 compares the measurements to model calculations and Sect. 6 concludes the study.

2 The TransBrom *Sonne* cruise during October 2009

The TransBrom expedition was conducted aboard the German research vessel (RV) *Sonne* departing in Tomakomai, Japan (42°N , 141°E) on 9 October 2009 and arriving at Townsville, Australia (19°S , 146°E) on 24 October 2009 (4030 nautical miles,

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or 7500 km). An overview of the meteorology during the cruise is given by Krüger and Quack (2012). Here the viewing conditions are added. At the beginning of the cruise, the weather was influenced by the typhoon *Melor* which had weakened to an extra-tropical storm when reaching the RV *Sonne* causing heavy rain and strong winds in the harbour of Tomakomai on 9 October 2009. On 10 October 2009, the weather was characterised by almost clear skies providing a good visibility, but on 11 and 12 October 2009 the cloud coverage increased. During the night of 13 October 2009, the next tropical depression (*Nepartak*) hit the RV *Sonne* causing the largest winds recorded during the whole cruise and heavy rain until noon. On 14 October 2009 clear skies provided the best viewing condition during the whole cruise. In the afternoon of 15 October 2009, the RV *Sonne* encountered again high wind speeds due to the tropical depression *Lupit* passing by. The days from 15 to 22 October 2009 were partly cloudy, and atmospheric instability initiated large convective cells which on occasions led to precipitation during the afternoons. The weather on the final days of the cruise was again rather sunny with infrequent occurrence of clouds.

In order to facilitate the discussion later in the paper, the whole cruise track is divided into three parts, part 1 ranging from Tomakomai, Japan (42° N, 141° E) to (20° N, 146° W) (09 – 14 October 2009), part 2 from (20° N, 146° W) to (8° S, 154° W) (14 – 21 October 2009) and part 3 part from (8° S, 154° W) to Townsville (19° S, 146° E) (21 – 24 October 2009).

Major objectives of the TransBrom *Sonne* cruise were the investigation of the halo-carbon concentrations in the surface seawater and air, and the estimation of their sea-air source strengths and sinks. This appears to be relevant since the Western Pacific is regarded as the main “entrance gate” for naturally emitted halocarbons entering the stratosphere (Bonazzola and Haynes, 2004; Krüger et al., 2008; Fueglistaler et al., 2009). Further, Fourier Transform infrared spectrometry (FTIR) measurements of CO and O₃ (Ridder et al., 2012) as well as satellite and in-situ measurements of phytoplankton complemented our measurements. Finally, our trace gase studies

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were corroborated by meteorological measurements and the release of radio- and ozonesondes (Krüger and Quack, 2012).

Two MAX-DOAS instruments were operated next to each other aboard the RV *Sonne* with the IUP Bremen group focussing on the measurements of NO₂ and HCHO and their validation with satellite measurements (Peters et al., 2012) and the IUP Heidelberg group focussing on the retrieval of IO mixing ratios and profiles in the MBL along the cruise track (this study).

3 Methods

While IO was measured using the MAX-DOAS method, air samples were taken simultaneously, although at a lower frequency, for the analysis of some major iodocarbon species (CH₃I, CH₂I₂, CH₂ClI, CH₂BrI) from which sea-air fluxes were inferred. Since the measured IO mixing ratios were also compared to simulations of the one-dimensional photochemical model MISTRA v7.4.1 (von Glasow et al., 2002; Sommariva et al., 2012), some details of the MISTRA simulations are provided below.

3.1 The (MAX-)DOAS measurement principle

For the retrieval of IO, the method of Differential Optical Absorption Spectroscopy (DOAS) was applied (Platt and Stutz, 2008). This method is a remote sensing technique using scattered sunlight that is attenuated along its light path in the atmosphere according to the Lambert–Beer law. It relies on the fact that the optical density can be separated in a narrow (differential) band component accounting for the absorption processes of the different trace gas molecules and a broad band component describing the scattering effects.

In the Multi-Axis DOAS (MAX-DOAS) technique (Hönninger et al., 2004; Wittrock et al., 2004), spectra of scattered sunlight are recorded under different elevation angles α between the zenith and the horizon. Low elevation angle measurements have

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a higher sensitivity to lower tropospheric layers, and thus the MAX-DOAS method has an increased sensitivity towards tropospheric absorbers located near the surface.

The MAX-DOAS measurements yield differential slant column densities (dSCDs) ΔS for each fitted trace gas: $\Delta S(\alpha) = S(\alpha) - S_{\text{ref}}$ with $S(\alpha)$ being the slant column density (SCD) recorded at the elevation angle α and S_{ref} being the SCD of the Fraunhofer reference spectrum usually measured in the zenith ($\alpha = 90^\circ$). The SCD is defined as the concentration c of a specific absorber integrated along the light path L and is given in units of molec cm^{-2} .

Using radiative transport models, the SCDs can be converted to vertical column densities (VCD) V by simulating the air mass factor (AMF) A , which is the ratio of S and V . V is defined as the concentration c integrated along the vertical height z and is in turn independent of the length L of the light path.

3.2 The MAX-DOAS instrument

The IUP Heidelberg MAX-DOAS instrument on the RV *Sonne* consisted of the following major parts: a telescope unit, in which a plano-convex quartz lens collected the skylight into the approximately circular entrance area of a quartz fiber bundle with 37 individual optical fibres of 100 μm core diameter forming a telescope field of view of 0.5° . At the fibre bundle exit, the single optical fibres of the bundle were arranged to a single column serving as the entrance slit of the Acton SpectraPro 300i Czerny-Turner optical spectrometer. The optical spectrometer was equipped with an Andor CCD detector camera (model DU 440-BU) with 2048 horizontal (i.e. in dispersion direction) and 512 vertical pixels. The optical spectrometer covered a wavelength range from 327 nm to 470 nm, with a full width half maximum resolution of 0.5 nm, or 7.2 detector pixels. A personal computer was used to control the instrument, to store the data and for online data analysis. The performance of the instrument was assessed during a recent intercomparison campaign (Roscoe et al., 2010).

The telescope was attached at the portside on top of the rail of the upper deck of the RV *Sonne*, approximately 15 m a.s.l. The viewing direction was oriented perpendicular

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to the heading of the ship. The rolling movement of the ship (rotation of the ship along the heading axis) was largely compensated for by employing an inclinometer, of which the output signal was used to continuously stabilise the elevation angle of the telescope during the measurements. The optical spectrometer was placed in the scientific bridge room of the RV *Sonne* and kept at a temperature of 38 °C, in order to guarantee a stable optical imaging.

During the routine measurement mode, a set of 1000 scattered skylight spectra was added for each chosen elevation angle, $\alpha = 90^\circ$ (zenith), 20° , 10° , 7° , 5° , 3° , -45° . One elevation angle sequence lasted for about seven minutes, and the sequences were continuously repeated as long as the solar zenith angle (SZA) was lower than 85° . During twilight ($85^\circ < \text{SZA} < 97^\circ$), only zenith measurements were performed, followed by detector dark current and offset measurements during nighttime.

3.3 DOAS data analysis

The scattered sunlight spectra measured by MAX-DOAS were analysed for the absorption of IO and O₄ using the software *WinDOAS* provided by the IASB/BIRA (Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy) (Van Roozendael and Fayt, 2001). The *WinDOAS* code was also used for the convolution of all absorption cross-sections reported in the literature, whereas the Ring spectrum was calculated using the software *DOASIS* (Kraus, 2006).

Since in the tropics at local noon, the measured zenith sky spectra were too bright leading to a saturation of the detector, instead local noon skylight spectra measured at an elevation angle of $\alpha = 20^\circ$ were taken as Fraunhofer reference spectrum.

Since during an individual elevation sequence the changes of the stratospheric slant column densities were small due to similar light paths in the stratosphere for all elevation angles, their contribution cancelled out for two adjacent $\alpha = 20^\circ$ measurements, and thus $\Delta S(\alpha)$ did not contain any stratospheric residual absorption. For the spectral retrieval, each 20° elevation angle spectrum was allowed to be wavelength shifted relative to the high resolution solar Fraunhofer spectrum of Kurucz et al. (1984). Thereby,

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the oceanic VRS is shown in Fig. 1a. The spectrum was recorded at 19.87° N and 147.15° E at an elevation angle of 3° at 15:13 local time (SZA = 55.79°) on 14 October 2009. Spectral retrieval exercises including/excluding the VRS indicated that the inferred IO dSCD was 1.56×10^{13} molec cm⁻² versus 1.89×10^{13} molec cm⁻² and the residual root mean square (RMS) was 1.50×10^{-4} versus 1.67×10^{-4} , respectively, i.e. the IO dSCD increased by about 20 % while the residual increased by about 10 %, thus providing evidence that the VRS compensation spectrum needed to be included in the spectral retrieval. Furthermore, modelling studies of the relative number of photons that are back-scattered from the ocean surface layer using the radiative transfer model McArtim (see Sect. 3.4.1) suggested that, for elevation angles smaller than 10°, a wavelength of 428 nm, an SZA of 30°, a relative azimuth angle of 90° and an oceanic albedo of 0.054 (Jin et al., 2002), 10–15 % of the detected photons were back-scattered in the ocean surface. Both findings led us to include a VRS compensation spectrum in the spectral retrieval.

The analysis of O₄ was performed in the wavelength interval ranging from 348 to 369 nm, where a single absorption band is located. The following absorption cross-sections were included into the spectral retrieval: O₄ from Hermans et al. (1999), BrO at 298 K from Wilmouth et al. (1999), HCHO from Meller and Moortgat (2000), NO₂ at 298 K, O₃ at 223 K and 243 K (for the references see above) as well as a Ring spectrum. For the multiplicative and additive polynomials, the same degrees were used as for the IO spectral retrieval.

Figure 1 shows an example for an O₄ spectral retrieval. In this case, the retrieved O₄ dSCD was 1.13×10^{43} molec² cm⁻⁵ with the RMS of the residual spectrum amounting to 1.72×10^{-4} .

3.4 Retrieval of aerosol and trace gas vertical profiles from MAX-DOAS measurements

Vertical profiles of the aerosol extinction and IO mixing ratios were derived using the well established method of optimal estimation (Rodgers, 2000). The aerosol and trace

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gas retrieval algorithm, as previously described by Frieß et al. (2006) and Frieß et al. (2011), was used and adapted for this study. Briefly, the optimal estimation method compared measured O_4 and IO dSCDs with model simulations from radiative transfer modelling, using a priori vertical profiles as an additional constraint. The resulting maximum a posteriori (MAP) solutions yielded the aerosol extinction and IO mixing ratio profiles, respectively.

The following radiative transfer model parameters were chosen for both, the aerosol and the IO retrievals: pressure, temperature, and humidity were adapted from the US standard atmosphere, and the surface albedo was set to 6 %. Profile information was retrieved for time intervals of 15 min for individual layers, each 100 m in vertical extent, ranging from the surface up to 2000 m altitude.

3.4.1 Details of the vertical profile retrieval

In a first step, aerosol profiles were retrieved using a retrieval algorithm based on the SCIATRAN radiative transfer model (Rozanov et al., 2005). Since the length of the light paths and thus the O_4 dSCDs observed at different elevation angles depend on the atmospheric aerosol loading, information on the aerosol extinction profile can be derived on the basis of the observed O_4 dSCDs (Wagner et al., 2004; Sinreich et al., 2005; Frieß et al., 2006). As a priori, an aerosol extinction profile with a surface extinction of 0.14 km^{-1} and linearly decreasing to zero at an altitude of 2 km was chosen. The a priori error was set to 100 %. For aerosol scattering, an aerosol single scattering albedo of 0.95 and a Henyey–Greenstein phase function with an asymmetry parameter of 0.72 were assumed. O_4 dSCDs inferred from different elevation angles from the 360.8 nm band served as measurement vector. According to findings by Clémer et al. (2010), the absorption cross-section of O_4 was previously underestimated by as much as 25 % and hence, the O_4 cross-section from Hermans et al. (1999) is multiplied by 1.25.

IO vertical profiles were derived using our trace gas retrieval algorithm, which employed the McArtim Monte Carlo radiative transfer code as a forward model (Deutschmann et al., 2011). The retrieved extinction profiles from above served as

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input parameter for modelling the radiative transfer. The a priori IO profile was assumed to exponentially decrease with altitude, with a scale height of 1 km and a surface volume mixing ratio (VMR) of 2 ppt. The a priori error was set to 100 % and the same 100 m layers as in the case of the aerosol retrieval were used. The profiles were simulated with 10^4 photon trajectories.

For the measurements under clear skies on 14 October 2009, a comparison between measured and modelled O_4 and IO dSCDs is shown in Fig. 2. A good agreement between modelled and measured dSCDs was achieved, showing that the radiative transfer model was able to reproduce the measurements with the chosen assumptions. Figure 3 shows average aerosol and IO averaging kernels. The aerosol and IO retrievals showed a distinctively different behaviour, with the aerosol retrieval being only sensitive to the lowermost ≈ 500 m of the atmosphere (note that the sensitivity varies with aerosol content due to the non-linear nature of the inverse problem). During the whole cruise the degrees of freedom for signal (DFS) of the aerosol retrieval ranged between 0.78 and 1.29 with an average value of 1.15. Somewhat better sensitivity was achieved for the IO retrieval, where the averaging kernel indicated that information on the vertical profile was retrieved for the lowermost 1000 m, and the DFS ranged between 1.30 and 2.26 with an average value of 1.97.

Figure 4 shows a comparison between the aerosol optical depth (AOD) retrieved from MAX-DOAS measurements and from data of a hand-held Sun photometer. Sun photometer data during the TransBrom *Sonne* cruise was very sparse and data was only available for several hours on six days. During these occasions, the AODs inferred from the MAX-DOAS and Sun photometer measurements showed good agreement except for 17 October 2009, when the AODs inferred from the Sun photometer observation were significantly lower than inferred from MAX-DOAS measurements.

3.4.2 Error characterisation and information content

Several sources contributed to the overall error of the retrieved profile. First, random and systematic errors (called noise error) of the trace gas spectral analysis propagated

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into the profile retrieval. Second, the limited information content of the measurements resulted in a limited height resolution as quantified by the averaging kernels, yielding the so-called smoothing error. Third, the uncertainty in the forward radiative model parameters caused a systematic error component. Furthermore, the choice of the a priori constraint affected the results of the retrieval. Since a detailed error analysis of the aerosol retrieval was already provided by Frieß et al. (2006), the focus of the following error discussion was put on the IO vertical profile retrieval.

The errors of the IO spectral analysis (noise error) were given by the IO fit error and the systematic errors. For example for the measurement on 14 October 2009, the average (and typical) IO fit error was about 1.6×10^{12} molec cm⁻² ($\approx 10\%$ of the average IO dSCD) for an observation at an elevation angle of 3°.

In order to test the sensitivity of the spectral retrieval and of the forward model parameters on the profile retrieval, retrievals were performed for different sets of parameters. Table 4 specifies the different parameters and the corresponding inferred IO dSCDs, VMRs and VCDs and the respective absolute IO retrieval errors, averaged over many profile retrievals for a single day (14 October 2009). Systematic errors arose, e.g. from excluding or including different absorption cross-sections in the DOAS fitting procedure. The following parameters were varied: (a) An H₂O absorption cross-section from HITRAN 2009 instead of HITRAN 2006 was included. Here it was found that the HITRAN 2009 H₂O yielded approximately 21 % lower IO dSCDs and 12 % lower dSCDs errors, most likely due to a wavelength shift of the HITRAN 2006 versus HITRAN 2009 H₂O absorption cross-section. (b) Inclusion of a glyoxal absorption cross-section in the spectral retrieval resulted in lower IO dSCDs ($\approx 19\%$) but much higher dSCD errors ($\approx 38\%$). (c) Inclusion or omission of a VRS compensation spectrum led to the results already stated above, i.e. excluding the VRS compensation spectrum resulted in approximately 16 % larger IO dSCDs and 25 % larger dSCD errors.

The average VMR noise error of the final IO profile retrieval amounted to 0.3 ppt, which corresponded to approximately 25 % of the average VMR of 1.3 ppt. However,

here the smoothing error dominated the IO retrieval error and resulted in an average mixing ratio error of 0.8 ppt. Accordingly, the average total VMR error was 0.9 ppt.

The main uncertainty of the forward model parameter error was due to uncertainties in the assumed aerosol extinction profile. For example, changing the assumed AOD by $\pm 20\%$, which was much larger than the typical total retrieval error of 5%, modified the IO VMR by approximately $\pm 22\%$.

A further test consisted of using an exponentially decreasing IO a priori profile with a scale height of again 1 km and a surface VMR of 1 or 4 ppt instead of 2 ppt. It was found that changing the a priori profile shape had a large impact on the shape of the inferred profile, which was a result of the limited information content of the profile retrieval.

Another error potentially arose from the uncertainty of the viewing direction. Assuming that the inclinometer did not correctly compensate for the rolling movement of the ship, an elevation offset of 1° was implemented in the retrieval. Compared to the retrieval excluding an elevation offset the total VMR error was approximately 17% larger and the inferred VMR increased by 22%.

In summary, the systematic error determined using a Gaussian square sum of the individual error components, amounted to $\approx 0.95 \times 10^{12}$ molec cm^{-2} (30%) and 0.65 ppt (60%) for the inferred IO VCD and VMR, respectively. The daily averaged DFS for 14 October 2009 was $d_s = 1.98$, but varied considerably with atmospheric visibility.

3.5 Iodocarbons measurements

Occasional air samples were collected using unpressurised canisters and analysed for major halocarbons using the GC/MS analytical system installed aboard. In addition, air samples were taken at higher frequency using pressurised canisters, which were analysed for halocarbons at the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (RSMAS) in Miami by the group of Elliot Atlas (Quack et al., 2012). Furthermore, a few air samples were analysed for some halocarbons at the Institute for Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences, University of Frankfurt, Germany by the group of Andreas

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Engel. All these samples, analysed at different laboratories, showed a good agreement for some brominated compounds (Brinckmann et al., 2012). The direct analysis of the samples analysed aboard the RV *Sonne* with the GC/MS system was found to be necessary, since some iodinated halocarbons, e.g. CH₃I, CH₂I₂, CH₂ClI and CH₂BrI, are known to be instable in the air canisters upon storage. Calibration of the on-board measurements was performed using liquid standards, since gaseous standards were not available. Three stock solutions of chlorinated, brominated and iodinated compounds were prepared in pentane, and volumetrically diluted with methanol to environmental concentrations. Analysis of the liquid standards was performed through the same analytical set-up as for seawater and atmospheric samples analysed on-board. Intercalibration of the analytical systems was performed with (a) a NOAA gas standard mixture and (b) with the CHBr₃ and CH₃I atmospheric data obtained by all three groups. The agreement between the two canister storage methods were generally better than 5 %, while the samples analysed with the on-board GC/MS system differed by as much as 20 % in absolute terms, but generally showed a good agreement in relative terms. The iodinated compounds CH₂I₂, CH₂ClI and CH₂BrI were only calibrated with the standard solutions resulting in an estimated uncertainty of 20 %.

3.6 Photochemical modelling

The IO measurements were compared to simulations of the marine iodine chemistry performed with the one-dimensional (1-D) photochemical model MISTRA v7.4.1 (von Glasow et al., 2002; Sommariva et al., 2012). MISTRA is a 1-D Lagrangian model which includes a detailed treatment of the dynamics and thermodynamics as well as a microphysical module that explicitly calculates particle growth and the interaction with radiation. MISTRA includes a detailed and recently updated gas and aqueous phase chemical mechanism, with a focus on halogen chemistry, as recently described in Sommariva and von Glasow (2012) and Sommariva et al. (2012).

The model was set up to simulate the transport of air masses in the MBL over the Pacific Ocean for a latitude of 10° N during October. The model meteorology was

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(2010) reported observations of the sea-air fluxes of individual iodocarbons for (c) the open ocean region in the tropical and sub-tropical Atlantic Ocean and for (d) the Mauritanian upwelling region (high productivity region off the coast of West Africa). These fluxes were significantly different from previous estimates, particularly for the short-lived compounds such as CH_2I_2 and CH_2CII , resulting in an overall weaker source of iodine in the remote ocean, even in high productivity regions (Table 3). The flux of CH_2CII in the Atlantic Ocean reported by Jones et al. (2010) is even ten times lower than the flux calculated for part 3 of the TransBrom cruise in the Western Pacific.

4 Results and discussion

Figure 5 shows the IO dSCDs for an elevation angle of 3° together with the daily averaged IO dSCDs and the respective detection limits for the TransBrom cruise track. The average detection limit (assumed to be 2σ) was similar for all elevation angles and amounted to $S_{\min} = (3.32 \pm 0.72) \times 10^{12} \text{ molec cm}^{-2}$ for an elevation angle of 3° . As expected the IO dSCDs increased with decreasing elevation angle, indicating that IO was present close to the surface, except for periods of heavy rain, e.g. in the morning of 13 October 2009 and in the afternoon of 18 October 2009 as well as around noon on 20 to 22 October 2009. During these periods, no clear separation of the measured IO dSCDs for different elevation angles was observed owing to the low visibility. For rainy periods, the inferred IO dSCDs were also lower than on clear days. Compared to the measurements in cruise part 1 and 3, in cruise part 2 the measured IO dSCDs were larger reaching typical IO dSCDs of $(1-1.8) \times 10^{13} \text{ molec cm}^{-2}$ and maximum IO dSCDs of $2.5 \times 10^{13} \text{ molec cm}^{-2}$. The largest IO dSCDs were observed on cloud free sunny days, e.g. on 14 October 2009, but unfortunately due to software problems the early morning data were missing. Moreover, on days with almost clear sky and little cloud coverage, the measured IO dSCDs did not show a distinct diurnal cycle for SZAs lower than 84° . Contrary to this finding, on overcast days, e.g. on 19 October 2009, enhanced IO dSCDs were observed for morning as compared to evening measurements.

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The inferred IO dSCDs were also compared to the measurements simultaneously taken with the Bremen instrument for 14 October 2009 (Fig. 6). Overall, both data sets were in good agreement and the diurnal variations were similar for all days of the cruise, but the Heidelberg IO dSCDs were found to be smaller (by $(2-5) \times 10^{12}$ molec cm⁻²) than those inferred from the Bremen instrument. The difference was likely due to the different retrievals, especially due to the choice of the Fraunhofer reference spectra selected by both groups. For example, in order to avoid direct sunlight and detector saturation effects, the spectra from the IUP Bremen instrument were analysed against a single daily zenith Fraunhofer reference spectrum taken at an SZA of 45°, whereas for the IUP Heidelberg retrieval the 20° spectrum taken during each elevation sequence was used as a Fraunhofer reference spectrum.

A latitudinal cross-section of inferred daily averaged IO VCDs and IO surface mixing ratios is shown in Fig. 7a. In general, the retrieved IO surface mixing ratios were subject to significantly larger relative errors than the VCDs, because the measurements yielded only limited information on the shape of the IO profile, whereas the VCD was retrieved with significantly better accuracy. Largest IO VCDs and IO surface mixing ratios were present during cruise part 2 (20° N to 5° S), where the daily averaged VCD reached 3.7×10^{12} molec cm⁻² and the IO mixing ratio 1.5 ppt. Figure 7b shows the air mixing ratios of the organic iodine precursor molecules CH₃I, CH₂BrI, CH₂I₂, and CH₂CII. They indicate that the largest iodocarbon mixing ratios occurred in the southern tropical hemisphere. Furthermore, after 21 October 2009 (cruise part 3), a significant increase in CH₂CII was observed, when the RV *Sonne* passed Papua New Guinea and approached the North coast of Australia, where the biological activity was largely due to the proximity to the coast. Accordingly, biologically derived iodocarbons, e.g. CH₂CII reached mixing ratios of more than 12 ppt near the surface. Due to its short lifetime (some hours), CH₂CII was potentially an efficient source of inorganic iodine there, but surprisingly an increase in IO was not observed. Moreover, the data in Fig. 7 only indicates a weak correlation among the daily averaged CH₂CII and IO ($R < 0.25$), supporting the idea that organic iodocarbons were not the main source for reactive

iodine in the MBL. Furthermore, the daily averaged oceanic Chla content (Tilman Dinter, IUP Bremen, personal communication, 2012) and the IO VMR were found to be anti-correlated with a correlation coefficient of $R = -0.70$. Thus, the oceanic Chla concentrations (Fig. 7c) may not serve as a good proxy for the presence of IO in the MBL.

In the latitude band between 15° N and 8° S, ozone mixing ratios measured by in-situ O_3 -sondes (Markus Rex, AWI Potsdam, personal communication) dropped to values at or below the detection limit of ≈ 15 ppb near the surface (panel (c) of Fig. 7). Since the O_3 and IO mixing ratios anti-correlated with $R = -0.47$, this may lead to the conclusion that ozone was lost by iodine-mediated photochemistry or in reactions with dissolved organic matter at the ocean surface, a finding in broad agreement with recently reported results from the Eastern Pacific (Mahajan et al., 2012). At the same time reactions of ozone with dissolved organic matter at the ocean surface could have initiated the release of iodocarbons into the atmosphere (Garland and Curtis, 1981; Martino et al., 2009). However, owing to the poor correlation between the IO and ozone mixing ratio found in the data, a tighter conclusion can neither be drawn on ozone destruction by reactive iodine, nor on an ozone-driven iodine precursor production. Further, IO showed a positive correlation with relative humidity ($R = 0.60$) and with sea surface temperature (SST) ($R = 0.71$) (Fig. 7d). The latter correlation might point to an increased oceanic release of iodocarbons due to their decreasing solubility at higher temperatures. The relative humidity was recorded by the weather station of the RV *Sonne*, whereas the SST was measured by a factory calibrated temperature probe in surface seawater taken from 5 m depth in the hydrographic shaft of the RV *Sonne*.

5 Comparison to model calculations

The measurements are compared to results obtained from the MISTRA model simulations (see Sect. 3.6). Due to the limited vertical resolution of the IO profiles retrieved from the MAX-DOAS measurements, a quantitative comparison of measured and modelled IO required the artificial degradation of the modelled profiles, i.e. by applying the

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inferred averaging kernel according to Rodgers and Connor (2003),

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{x}_a + \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_a) \quad (1)$$

where \mathbf{x} is the modelled IO vertical profile, \mathbf{A} the MAX-DOAS averaging kernel and \mathbf{x}_a the MAX-DOAS a priori profile. The artificially degraded profile \mathbf{x}' represents the vertical profile that would have been retrieved from the MAX-DOAS measurements if the true profile would be \mathbf{x} . Since the MAX-DOAS averaging kernel varied from profile retrieval to profile retrieval, due to changes in atmospheric visibility and aerosol load, a representative averaging kernel matrix \mathbf{A} was calculated from the mean of all inferred averaging kernels (see Fig. 3).

Figure 8 shows the IO VCDs derived from the different model scenarios as listed in Table 3, together with the measured VCDs as a function of SZA and averaged for all data taken during the cruise. For all model runs the adjusted modelled VCDs were significantly larger than the unmodified modelled VCDs. This positive bias was caused by the choice of the a priori, which exponentially decreased with altitude and therefore contained some residual IO located above the model boundary layer, i.e. at altitudes where the sensitivity of the MAX-DOAS measurements was very limited.

The diurnal variation of the modelled IO VCD was distinctively different for the model runs excluding (run 0) or including an additional I_2 source (run 1 and 2). In particular, the model runs including an I_2 source exhibited larger IO VCDs in the morning (maximum at $\approx 73^\circ$ SZA), whereas the model run 0 (excluding an I_2 source) showed a symmetric diurnal variation. Thus, the IO peak mixing ratio in the morning resulted from the rapidly photolysed I_2 (Saiz-Lopez and Plane, 2004) that had accumulated in the MBL during the night. It was found that an additional I_2 flux of at least $j_{I_2} = 1.8 \times 10^8 \text{ molec (cm}^2 \text{ s)}^{-1}$ (run 1) was required to reproduce the measurements of cruise part 2. The artificially degraded VCDs of model run 0 excluding an additional I_2 source were $(1 - 1.5) \times 10^{12} \text{ molec cm}^{-2}$, which was outside the error of the measurements supporting the conclusion that an additional iodine flux is required.

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In the absence of an I_2 source (run 0), the model predicted approximately twice as much IO in the MBL for part 3 as compared to part 2, mostly owing to the higher iodocarbon mixing ratios there. In this case the comparison of modelled and measured VCDs did not allow us to decide, if an additional I_2 source was required. However, the measurements showed elevated IO VCDs for SZAs larger than 70° , which were indicative for the presence of a short-lived inorganic iodine precursor, e.g. I_2 .

Figures 9a-d shows the modelled vertical profiles of IO for run 0 and 1. Except for the early morning hours, IO was predicted to be well mixed within the boundary layer in run 0 (Fig. 9a, b), mainly as a result of the relatively long photochemical lifetime of the iodocarbons (see Table 2). In contrast, for run 1 (including an I_2 source) (Fig. 9c, d), IO shows a strong vertical gradient with highest IO mixing ratios near the surface. Figure 10 shows the single vertical profiles of model run 0 and 1 for cruise part 2 and 3 at noon, respectively. In model run 1 the shallow layer of enhanced IO with a strong vertical gradient near the surface is clearly visible.

Figure 9e–h shows the same model scenarios as in Fig. 9a–d, but artificially degraded with the MAX-DOAS averaging kernel. As expected, the adjusted profiles showed much larger vertical gradients as a result of the limited vertical resolution of the MAX-DOAS measurements. However, the main features of the model run 0 and 1 were still discernable in the artificially degraded profiles. In particular, the artificially degraded profiles of run 1 showed a shallow layer of enhanced IO located directly above the surface.

Figure 9i shows the IO mixing ratios retrieved from the MAX-DOAS measurements during cruise part 2 on 14 October 2009, and Fig. 9j for 23 October 2009 during cruise part 3. These two days had the lowest cloud contamination of the IO profile retrieval. For both days, the measured IO profiles were similar to the prediction of model run 1, with IO being distributed over the entire depth of the boundary layer in the morning, i.e. in particular seen on 23 October 2009. During the rest of this day IO was confined within a shallow layer near the surface of about 300 m in vertical extent. These findings strongly supported the hypothesis that an additional short-lived inorganic iodine

compound was necessary to find a good agreement between measured and modelled IO.

6 Conclusions

The present paper reports on a latitudinal cross-section of surface IO mixing ratios and IO profiles, which were taken in the MBL of the Western Pacific (42° N, 141° E to 19° S, 146° E). The measurements provide further evidence that IO is probably ubiquitous in the marine environment, with slightly enhanced IO being detected above warmer tropical (cruise part 2) as compared to the adjacent colder waters (cruise parts 1 and 3). The IO profiles inferred from the MAX-DOAS measurements indicate that (a) the bulk of IO with mixing ratios in the range (1–2.2) ppt was located in a shallow layer near the surface of less than 300 m in vertical extent during the day and that (b) IO is more widely distributed in the MBL in the morning.

A negative correlation of oceanic Chl_a and atmospheric IO was observed in agreement with a recent study performed in the Eastern Pacific (Mahajan et al., 2012). Both studies are providing strong evidence that, in contrast to coastal regions where iodocarbon emissions of macroalgae are likely the major source for iodine (e.g. Seitz et al., 2010; Commane et al., 2011), in the open ocean direct marine emissions of inorganic iodine (here assumed to be I₂) are important as a source of reactive iodine in the MBL.

This conclusion is corroborated by the following findings of our study:

1. There is no correlation between the measured IO and the organic iodine precursor species CH₃I, CH₂CIl, CH₂Brl and CH₂I₂.
2. The observed IO is underpredicted by the MISTRA model when only using iodocarbons as iodine precursors.
3. The IO peak in the MBL in the morning is much smaller, when excluding a strong inorganic iodine source, e.g. I₂, in the MISTRA model.

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4. Over the course of the day IO tends to be confined to a shallow layer of enhanced IO near the surface, requiring a short-lived precursor molecule emitted from the ocean, e.g. I₂, with a flux of 1.0 to 1.8 × 10⁸ molec (cm² s)⁻¹.

Findings 1 and 2 are in agreement with those previously reported by Jones et al. (2010) and Mahajan et al. (2010a).

Possible mechanisms for the direct oceanic emission of I₂ include (a) the reaction of ozone with dissolved organic matter at the ocean surface, as proposed by Garland and Curtis (1981) and Martino et al. (2009), (b) emission from any other abiotic source in the surface water body (Garland and Curtis, 1981; McFiggans, 2005), (c) direct emission of I₂ produced by microalgae and phytoplankton (I₂ emissions by macroalgae in coastal regions was observed at several sites, e.g. by Peters et al., 2005; Saiz-Lopez and Plane, 2004; Finley and Saltzman, 2008), and (d) iodine liberated from the sea salt aerosol (e.g. Saiz-Lopez et al., 2012). Mechanism (c) is unlikely due to the anti-correlation between IO and Chl_a and the lack of any correlation between IO and the organic iodine precursor species. While mechanism (d) is already implemented in the MISTRA model, our study does not give hints as to whether mechanism (a) and (b) are more relevant for our observations and for open ocean iodine emission in general. However, there are still uncertainties regarding, e.g. the heterogeneous and aqueous phase processes, and the iodine release mechanism might be underpredicted by the model (e.g. Reeser et al., 2009; Jammoul et al., 2009).

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Table 1. Past open ocean ground-based observations of IO in the troposphere using the active and passive DOAS technique.

Region	Location	Instrument	Max. Mix. Ratio [ppt]	Error $\pm(2\sigma)$ [ppt]	Reference
land-based	Tenerife, Spain (1997)	LP-DOAS	3	0.3	Allan et al. (2000)
	Tenerife, Spain, free troposphere (2010)	MAX-DOAS	0.4	0.2	Puenteadura et al. (2012)
	Cape Verde (2006–2007)	LP-DOAS	3.1	0.4	Mahajan et al. (2010a)
	Cape Verde (2010)	MAX-DOAS	1.5	0.6	Carpenter et al. (2010)
	Maledive Islands (1999)	MAX-DOAS	2.8	0.7	Oetjen (2009)
ship-borne	Eastern Pacific (2010)	MAX-DOAS	1.2 ¹	–	Mahajan et al. (2012)
	Western Pacific (2009)	MAX-DOAS	2.2 (1.5 ¹)	0.5 (0.9 ²)	this study

¹ Maximum daily mean.

² Daily mean.

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Table 2. Iodocarbons measured during the TransBrom cruise. Since CH₂ClI mixing ratios varied during the cruise, average values for cruise part 2 and part 3 were calculated.

	CH ₃ I [ppt]	CH ₂ ClI cruise part 2 [ppt]	CH ₂ ClI cruise part 3 [ppt]	CH ₂ BrI [ppt]	CH ₂ I ₂ [ppt]
Lifetime	6 days ¹	0.1 days ²		≈1 h ³	2–10 min ³
Average	0.52	1.43	7.41	0.19	0.56 ¹
Minimum	0.11	0.31	0.51	0.14	0.09
Maximum	0.93	4.162	13.85	0.25	1.76

¹Bell et al. (2002).

²Rattigan et al. (1997).

³Mössinger et al. (1998).

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Table 3. Iodocarbon fluxes in units of $10^7 \text{ molec (cm}^2 \text{ s)}^{-1}$ calculated from the data of previous studies and those collected during the TransBrom cruise part 2 and 3.

	Vogt et al. (1999)	von Glasow et al. (2002)	Jones et al. (2010) open ocean	Jones et al. (2010) up- welling	TransBrom cruise part 2	TransBrom cruise part 3
CH ₃ I	0.6	0.6	3.4	3.6	0.48	0.48
CH ₂ I ₂	3.0 ¹	3.0	1.3	1.4	2.3	2.3
CH ₂ ClI	3.0	6.0	1.2	1.9	3.8	19.0
CH ₂ BrI	0.0	0.0	0.76	0.59	0.71	0.71
CH ₂ H ₅ I	0.0	0.0	0.29	0.38	0.38 ²	0.38 ²
CH ₃ H ₇ I	2.0	1.0	0.063	0.056	0.063 ²	0.063 ²
Additional I ₂ flux (run 1)	–	–	22.0	19.0	18.0	10.0
Additional I ₂ flux (run 2)	–	–	22.0	19.0	34.0	16.0

¹Used the same value as CH₂ClI.

²Not measured during TransBrom. The highest fluxes reported by Jones et al. (2010) are used.

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Table 4. Overview of retrieved quantities and their errors for different IO retrieval settings, averaged over all observations from 14 October 2009. The scenario in the first column (bold) corresponds to the optimal parameters found for the spectral retrieval. The basic parameters and settings are described in Sect. 4. The dSCDs are given in units of 10^{13} molec cm^{-2} , the VCDs in units of 10^{12} molec cm^{-2} and the VMR in ppt.

parameter	H ₂ O 2009	H ₂ O 2006	with glyoxal	without VRS	apriori 1 ppt	apriori 4 ppt	AOD +20 %	AOD −20 %	α offset 1°
dSCD 3°	1.880	2.268	1.521	2.173	–	–	–	–	–
Δ dSCD 3°	0.157	0.175	0.217	0.196	–	–	–	–	–
VMR	1.290	1.674	1.023	1.668	1.178	1.410	1.574	0.998	1.491
VMR noise error	0.323	0.305	0.340	0.333	0.231	0.553	0.321	0.326	0.446
VMR smoothing error	0.830	0.842	0.856	0.835	0.451	1.551	0.787	0.904	0.940
VMR total error	0.893	0.897	0.923	0.902	0.508	1.654	0.852	0.963	1.043
VCD	3.383	3.980	3.089	3.725	3.001	3.729	3.530	3.266	3.823
VCD noise error	0.296	0.284	0.321	0.297	0.230	0.380	0.320	0.277	0.348
VCD smoothing error	0.315	0.309	0.323	0.305	0.209	0.542	0.359	0.270	0.307
VCD total error	0.434	0.422	0.457	0.428	0.311	0.665	0.482	0.388	0.465
degrees of freedom	1.983	1.985	1.931	1.986	1.721	2.247	1.995	1.968	1.803
AOD	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.111	0.074	0.097

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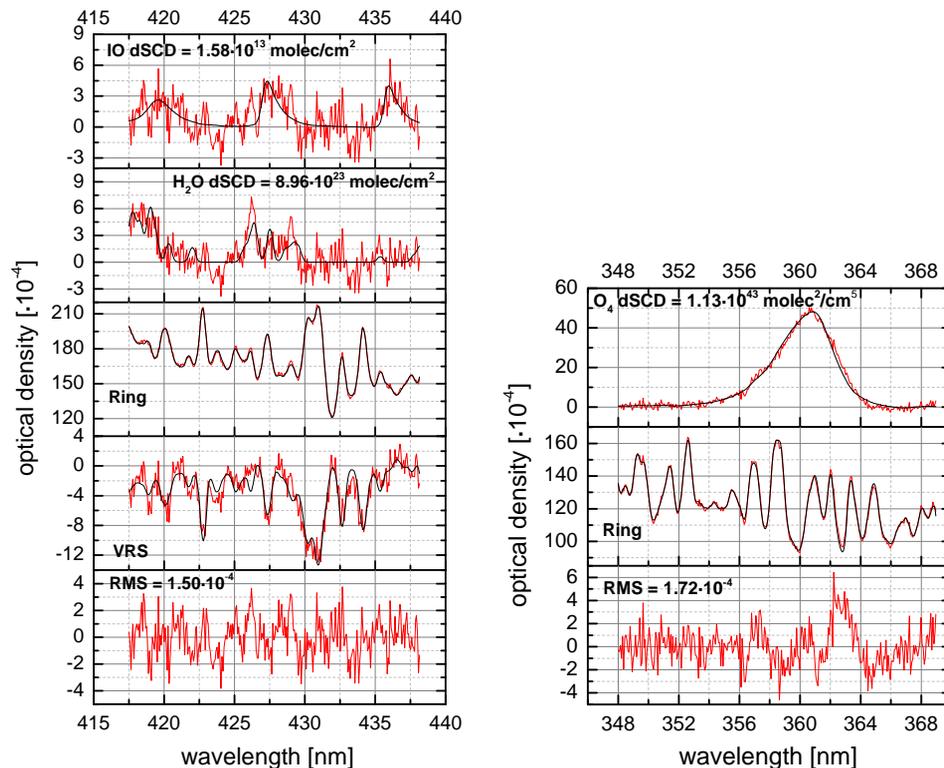


Fig. 1. Example for a spectral retrieval of **(a)** IO including a VRS compensation spectrum and **(b)** O₄. The spectrum was recorded at an elevation angle of 3°, an SZA of 55.79°, at 19.87° N and 147.15° W and 15:13 local time (UTC + 10 h) on 14 October 2009. The black lines indicate the fitted absorption cross-sections, whereas the red lines indicate the retrieved spectral signatures. The retrieved absorption structures of NO₂, O₃, HCHO and BrO are not shown.

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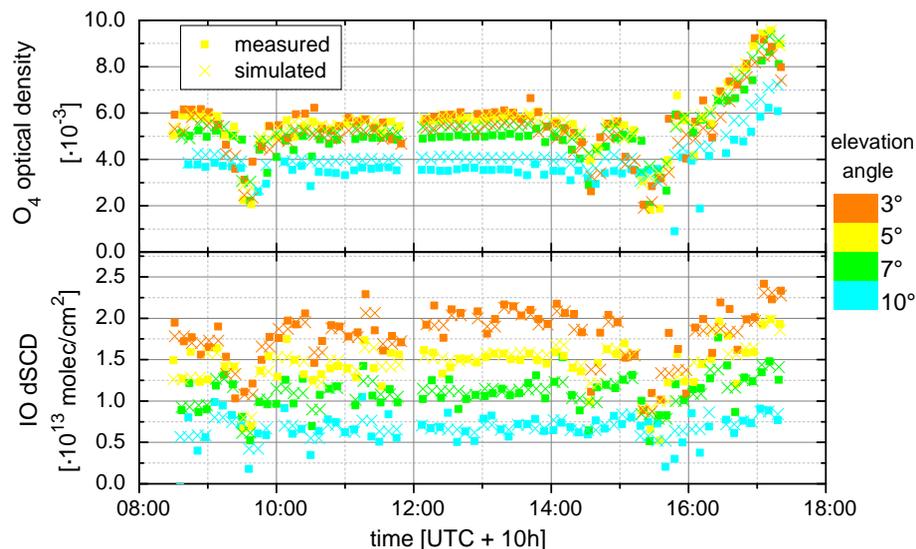


Fig. 2. Measured (squares) and simulated (crosses) O_4 dSCDs (top) and IO dSCDs (bottom) for 14 October 2009. The colour coding indicates the elevation angles.

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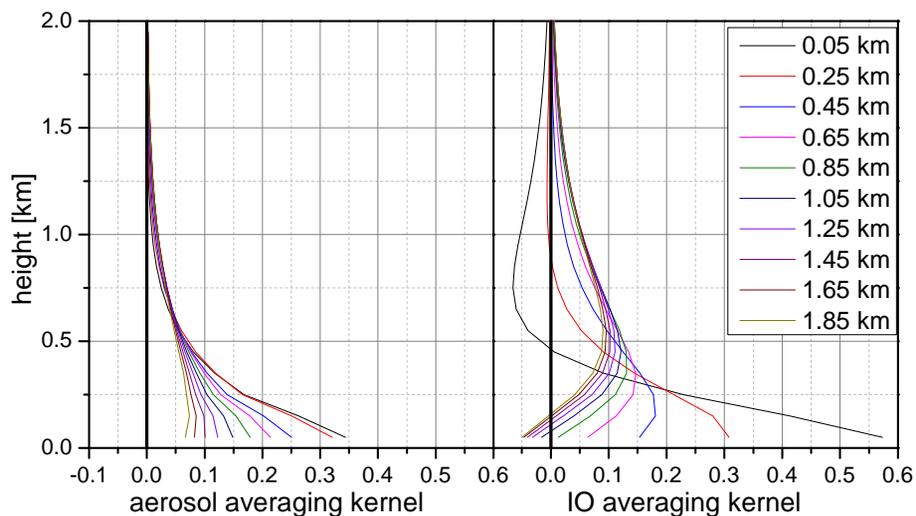


Fig. 3. Averaging kernels for inferred AOD and IO, averaged for the data from all profile retrievals.

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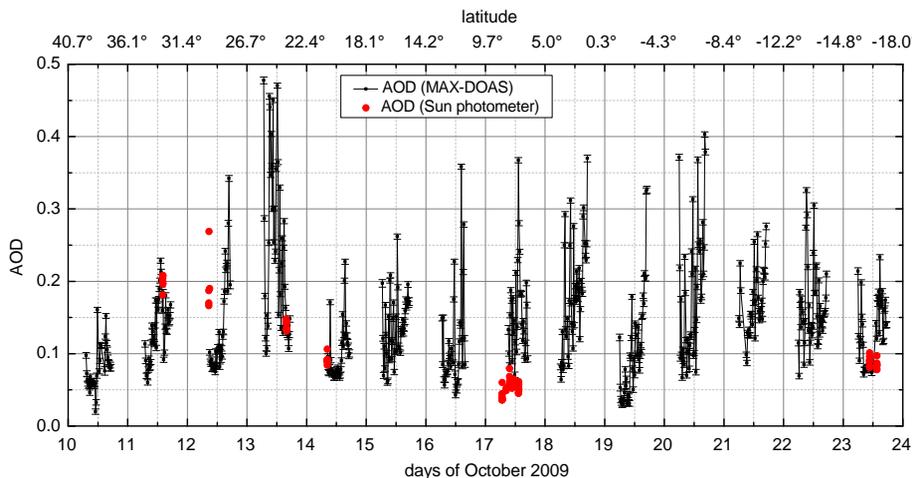


Fig. 4. Comparison of the aerosol optical depth (AOD) at 360 nm retrieved from MAX-DOAS (black squares) and from Sun photometer (red circles) measurements. The Sun photometer data are converted from AODs measurements at 440 nm to AODs at 360 nm, using the Ångström exponents derived from the Sun photometer measurements.

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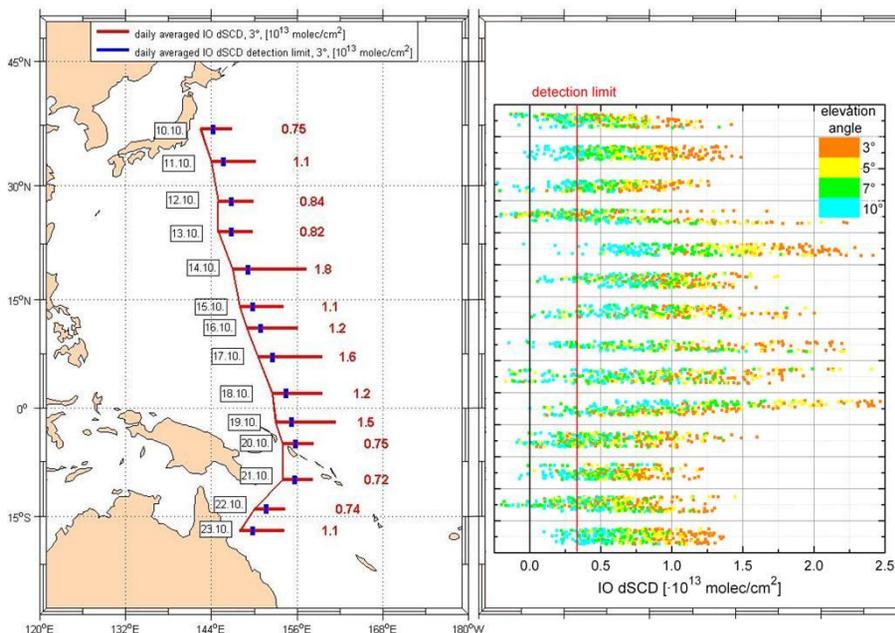


Fig. 5. Daily averaged IO dSCDs measured for elevation angles of 3° (red) along the cruise track with the dSCD detection limits displayed by blue bars (left panel). In the right panel, all inferred IO dSCDs are shown and colour-coded for different elevation angles.

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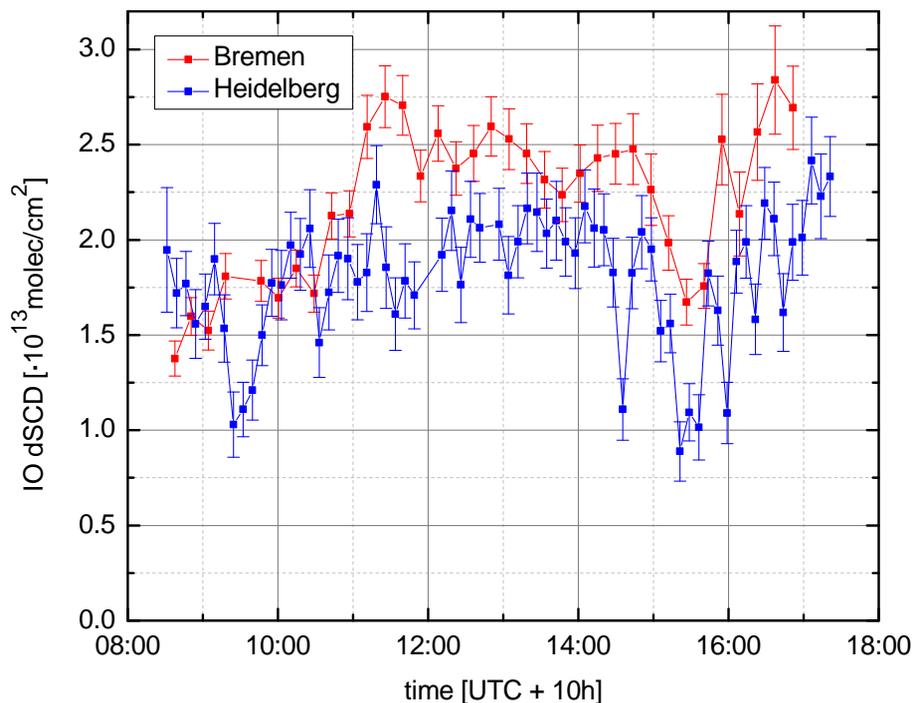


Fig. 6. Comparison of IO dSCDs retrieved from 3° elevation angle observations of the Bremen (red) and the Heidelberg (blue) measurements on 14 October 2009. Since the Bremen instrument performed more elevation angles per sequence, observations at specific elevation angles are less frequent.

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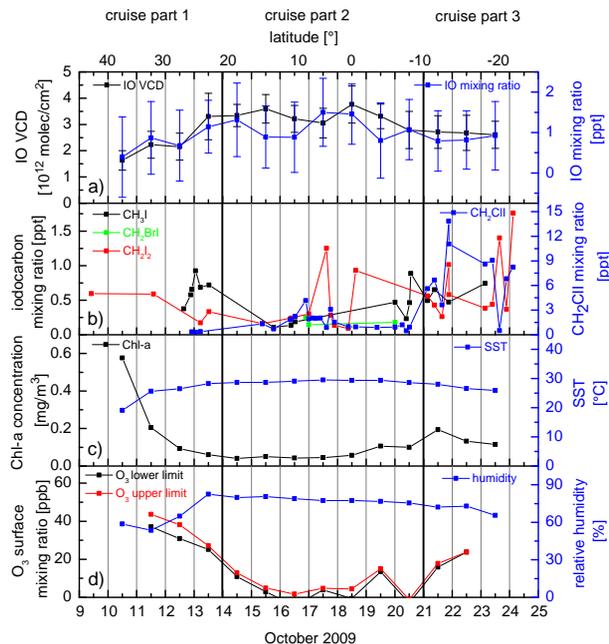


Fig. 7. Latitudinal cross-section of daily averaged IO VCDs and mixing ratios with the error bars indicating the respective daily averaged total error **(a)**, iodocarbon mixing ratios **(b)**, daily averaged Chl-a concentration and sea surface temperature (SST) **(c)** as well as the O₃ mixing ratios averaged for the lowest 100 m from each of the different O₃-sonde profiles (upper limit of the uncertainty range in red and lower limit of the uncertainty range in black) and the daily averaged relative humidity **(d)**.

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Iodine monoxide in the Western Pacific marine boundary layer

K. Großmann et al.

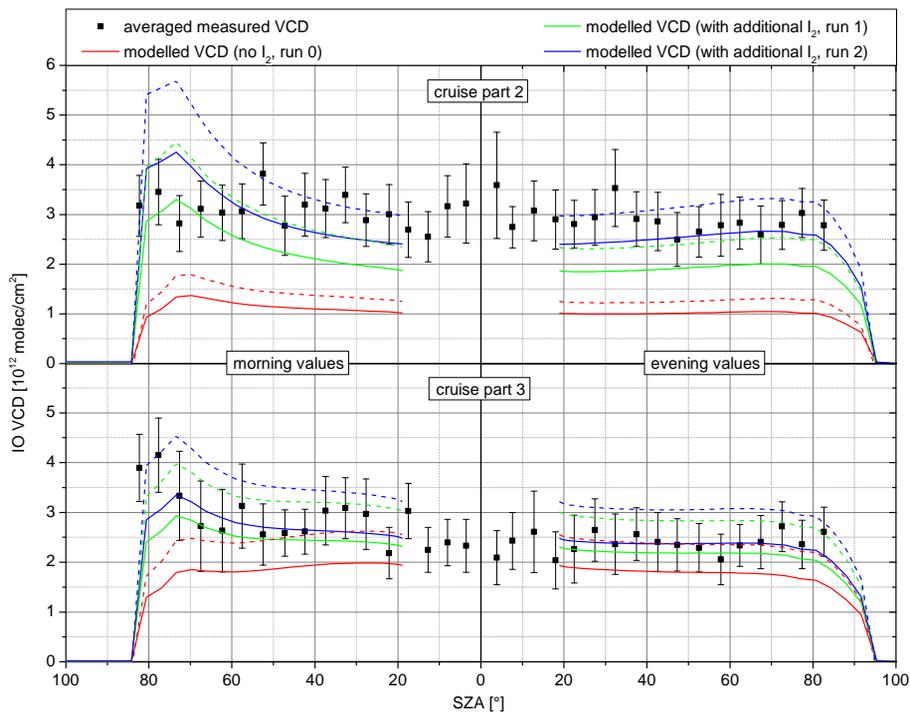


Fig. 8. Comparison of morning (left panel) and evening (right panel) values of measured and modelled IO VCDs as a function of SZA for the cruise part 2 (upper panel) and for the cruise part 3 (lower panel). The modelled VCDs are calculated from predictions of model runs 0, 1, and 2, according to Table 3 (solid red, green and blue lines) and the corresponding artificially degraded model VCDs are indicated by dashed lines. The measured VCDs are 5° SZA averages for the cruise part 2 and 3 (black squares), respectively.

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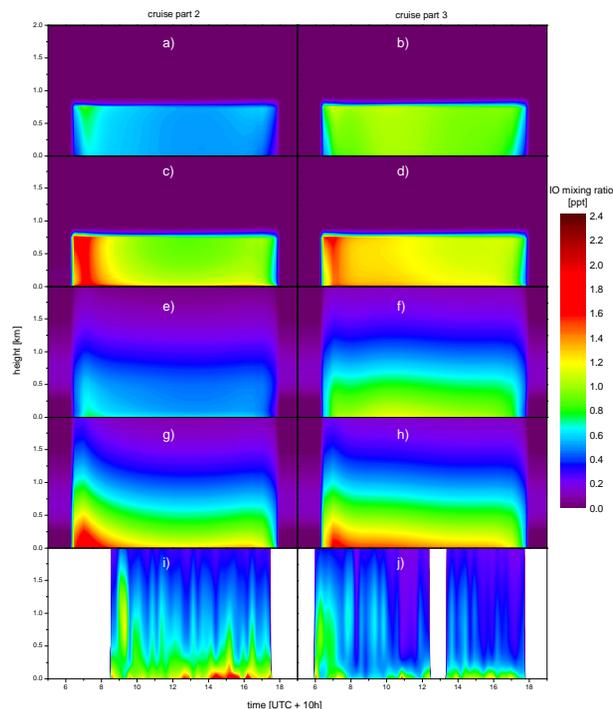


Fig. 9. IO simulations of the MISTRA model (**a–h**) and inferred IO profiles from the MAX-DOAS measurements (**i, j**) for a typical scenario of cruise part 2 (left column) and cruise part 3 (right column). (**a**) and (**b**) excluding an additional inorganic iodine flux, (**c**) and (**d**) including an additional inorganic iodine flux of $I_2 = 1.8 \times 10^8 \text{ molec (cm}^2 \text{ s)}^{-1}$ and $I_2 = 1.0 \times 10^8 \text{ molec (cm}^2 \text{ s)}^{-1}$, respectively, (**e**)–(**h**) same as (**a**)–(**d**) but artificially degraded, (**i** and **j**) retrieved from the MAX-DOAS measurements for 14 October 2009 and for 23 October 2009, respectively. The colour coding represents IO mixing ratios in units of ppt.

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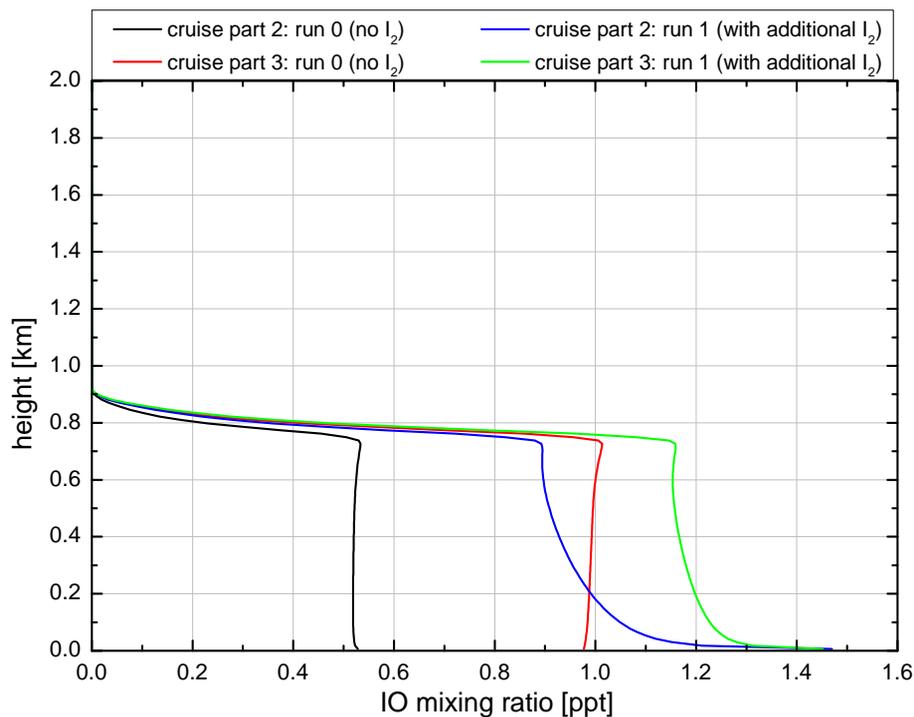


Fig. 10. IO vertical profiles for different model scenarios (run 0, run 1) for cruise part 2 and 3 at 12:00 local time.