

We really thank the editor for their comments. We have addressed the comments (numbered, below), with editor's comments in quotes and italics, and our responses immediately after in plain text.

### **Editor**

1. *"l. 81, and 86: The study by Nguyen et al. (2013) refers to lab studies of organic compounds. Do you mean Nguyen et al. (2014)? If not, please, add a reference for a study that shows that secondary inorganic aerosol formation is promoted by aerosol LWC."*

We added a reference, Seinfeld and Pandis (2006), to support our statement that inorganic aerosol formation is promoted by aerosol LWC. For example, aqueous phase SO<sub>2</sub> reactions produce SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>. Nguyen et al. (2013) is a lab study that demonstrates LWC's role in secondary organic aerosol formation.

2. *"l. 135: where a wide range", "l. 171: Köhler theory (?) can be used ....", "l. 222: SOAS average composition aerosol→SOAS average aerosol composition ?", "l. 294: accordingly", "l. 347: You might want to put 2 µg m<sup>-3</sup> in parentheses", "l. 369: doesn't→does not", "l. 389, and l. 546: owing to", "l. 489: were measured", "l. 553: do not", "l. 565: when pH approaches..."*

We have revised the text according to the above editorial suggestions.

3. *"l. 303 and everywhere else: Numbers ±SD are usually rounded to their last significant digits:*

*24.7 ± 3.3 °C → 25 ± 3*

*73.8 ± 16.1 % → 74 ± 16*

*4.52 ± 3.75 µg m<sup>-3</sup> → 5 ± 4"*

We have rounded T and RH data as the editor suggested, and particle mass data to 0.1 µg m<sup>-3</sup>.

4. *"l. 474: Do you mean 'gas and particle data of NH<sub>3</sub> and NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, respectively' are not available'?"*

The sentence has been reworded to "When gas data are not available, pH predictions are not as accurate (Hennigan et al., 2014)."

5. *"l. 524: 'aerosol sources of particle water' is unclear. Please reword."*

We have revised the sentence to "The effect of particle water on pH can also be delineated. pH calculated just by  $W_i$  alone will be affected by an underestimation of particle water, resulting in a slightly lower pH (Figure 13)."

6. *"Comment 37: It might be worthwhile to include your response to the reviewer in the manuscript text."*

We have added an explanation after Equation 6 as " $H_{air}^+$  and  $W_i$  are the output of ISORROPIA-II based on input of water soluble ions, RH, and T.  $H_{aq}^+$  is  $H_{air}^+$  divided by the LWC, and so including  $W_o$  decreases  $H_{aq}^+$  by a factor of  $W_o/(W_i+W_o)$ , relative to only considering  $W_i$ ."

### **References**

Hennigan, C. J., Izumi, J., Sullivan, A. P., Weber, R. J., and Nenes, A.: A critical evaluation of proxy methods used to estimate the acidity of atmospheric particles, Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics Discussions, 14, 27579-27618, doi: 10.5194/acpd-14-27579-2014, 2014.

Nguyen, T. B., Coggon, M. M., Flagan, R. C., and Seinfeld, J. H.: Reactive uptake and photo-Fenton oxidation of glycolaldehyde in aerosol liquid water, *Environmental science & technology*, 47, 4307-4316, doi: 10.1021/es400538j, 2013.

Seinfeld, J. H., and Pandis, S. N.: *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics: from Air Pollution to Climate Change* 2nd Edition, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Hoboken, New Jersey, 2006.