

We thank Thorsten Bartels-Rauch for carrying out further calculations on our data, and for pointing out some additional factors we should consider. We will provide a full author response to his comments in due course. However, as his comment indicates, in the course of investigating his calculations we discovered an error in our own calculation of the proportion of molecules absorbed on the ice surface. This will be corrected in the next version of the paper.

Firstly, the density of snow should be 0.3 g cm^{-3} , not 0.7.

The SSA of snow from Domine should be in the range $100\text{-}1000 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$, which translates as $10\text{-}100 \text{ m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ (not $100\text{-}1000 \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1}$).

Combining these values, in 1 litre of snow there is 670 cm^3 of air (less than 700 because density of ice is 0.9), and $3\text{E}4$ to $3\text{E}5 \text{ cm}^2$ of surface (300 g at $100\text{-}1000 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$). The ratio of surface to volume is therefore approximately $50\text{-}500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$.

With this much higher surface to volume ratio than we stated, the ratio of number of molecules on surface/number in air is:

$1000\text{-}10000$ for HNO_4

$4\text{E}5$ to $4\text{E}6$ for HNO_3

which implies that temperature changes leading to large changes in air concentration have negligible effect on the surface concentration.