# Meteorological constraints on oceanic halocarbons above the Peruvian Upwelling

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#### 10 Abstract

Halogenated very short lived substances (VSLS) are naturally produced in the ocean and 11 emitted to the atmosphere. Recently, oceanic upwelling regions in the tropical East Atlantic 12 were identified as strong sources of brominated halocarbons to the atmosphere. During a 13 cruise of R/V METEOR in December 2012 the oceanic sources and emissions of various 14 15 halogenated trace gases and their mixing ratios in the marine atmospheric boundary layer (MABL) were investigated above the Peruvian Upwelling for the first time. This study 16 17 presents novel observations of the three VSLS bromoform, dibromomethane and methyl iodide together with high resolution meteorological measurements and Lagrangian transport 18 modelling. Although relatively low oceanic emissions were observed, except for methyl 19 iodide, surface atmospheric abundances were elevated. Radiosonde launches during the 20 cruise revealed a low, stable MABL and a distinct trade inversion above acting both as strong 21 22 barriers for convection and trace gas transport in this region. Significant correlations between observed atmospheric VSLS abundances, sea surface temperature, relative humidity and 23 MABL height were found. We used a simple source-loss estimate to identify the contribution 24 of oceanic emissions to observed atmospheric concentrations which revealed that the 25 observed marine VSLS abundances were dominated by horizontal advection below the trade 26 27 inversion. The observed VSLS variations can be explained by the low emissions and their 28 accumulation under different MABL and trade inversion conditions. This study confirms the 29 importance of oceanic upwelling and trade wind systems on creating effective transport 30 barriers in the lower atmosphere controlling the distribution of VSLS abundances above31 ocean upwelling regions.

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## 33 **1. Introduction**

Short-lived halocarbons from the oceans contribute to reactive atmospheric halogens, which 34 35 are involved in tropospheric and stratospheric ozone depletion, aerosol formation, and other 36 chemical cycles, influencing the fate of pollutants and climate (McGivern et al., 2000;Saiz-Lopez and von Glasow, 2012;Simpson et al., 2015). Recent studies have identified open 37 ocean upwelling areas in the Atlantic as large source regions for a number of brominated and 38 iodinated oceanic trace gases (Quack et al., 2004;Quack et al., 2007;O'Brien et al., 39 40 2009;Raimund et al., 2011;Hepach et al., 2015a). Their sources are related to biological and chemical processes in the productive waters of the upwelling. The compounds are emitted 41 from the ocean and are horizontally transported and vertically mixed in the marine 42 atmospheric boundary layer (MABL) (Carpenter et al., 2010). In the Mauritanian upwelling, 43 it was found that besides oceanic sources meteorological conditions strongly influenced the 44 atmospheric mixing ratio of the marine compounds bromoform (CHBr<sub>3</sub>), dibromomethane 45 (CH<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>) and also methyl iodide (CH<sub>3</sub>I) (Hepach et al., 2014). Especially the combination of 46 a pronounced low MABL above cold upwelling waters with high concentrations and 47 48 emissions of the compounds caused elevated atmospheric mixing ratios. In return, these atmospheric mixing ratios also reduce the marine emissions through a decrease of the sea-air 49 concentration gradient (Fuhlbrügge et al., 2013). Similar relationships would be expected for 50 other oceanic upwelling areas, where not only the oceanic emissions, but also meteorological 51 52 conditions in the lowermost atmosphere, i.e., the height, type and structure of the boundary layer and trade inversion, determine the VSLS contribution to atmospheric chemical 53 processes. The intense oceanic upwelling in the Southeast Pacific off the coast of Peru 54 55 transports large amounts of subsurface waters to the ocean surface and creates one of the highest productive oceanic regions worldwide (Codispoti et al., 1982). The Peruvian 56 Upwelling is therefore a potentially intense source region for halogenated VSLS, e.g. 57 bromoform, dibromomethane and methyl iodide (Yokouchi et al., 1999;Butler et al., 58 2007; Carpenter et al., 2009). Indeed, Schönhardt et al. (2008) detected elevated IO columns 59 60 during September and November 2005 along the Peruvian coast with the SCIAMACHY satellite instrument and implied elevated iodine source gases from the Peruvian Upwelling. 61

Although, recent studies investigated halocarbons in the East Pacific (Yokouchi et al.,
2008;Mahajan et al., 2012;Saiz-Lopez et al., 2012;Gómez Martin et al., 2013;Liu et al., 2013)
few studies concentrated on the Peruvian Upwelling in the Southeast Pacific. Only
measurements of methyl iodide exist in this region, revealing atmospheric abundances of 7
ppt (Rasmussen et al., 1982). Observations of bromocarbons above the Peruvian Upwelling
are lacking.

In this study we present a high resolution dataset of meteorological parameters, oceanic 68 concentrations, emissions and atmospheric abundances of VSLS along the Peruvian coast and 69 70 in the Upwelling. Not much is known of the oceanic source strength of the VSLS and the meteorological influence on the marine trace gas distribution and abundances in this region. 71 The goal of this study is to assess the influence of oceanic upwelling and meteorological 72 conditions on the atmospheric VSLS abundances above the Peruvian Upwelling, and the 73 contribution of the local oceanic emissions to MABL and free tropospheric VSLS 74 concentrations. 75

The paper is structured as following. Chapter 2 gives an overview of the data and methods we use in this study. Chapter 3 presents the results from our atmospheric and oceanic observations and analyses the contribution from oceanic VSLS emissions to the MABL, as well as meteorological constrains on the observations. Chapter 4 discusses the results, before the study is summarized in Chapter 5.

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#### 82 2. Data and Methods

The cruise M91 on R/V METEOR from December 01 to 26, 2012 started and ended in Lima, Peru. The ship reached the most northern position during the cruise on December 03, 2012 at 5° S. In the following three weeks the ship headed southward and reached its southern most position at 16° S on December 21, 2012. During this time the track alternated between open ocean sections and sections very close to the Peruvian coast in the cold upwelling waters to collect coastal as well as open ocean data. Diurnal variations were observed during 6 stations along the cruise track.

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## 91 **2.1 Meteorological observations**

92 Meteorological measurements of surface air temperature (SAT), sea surface temperature 93 (SST), relative humidity, air pressure, wind speed and direction were taken every second at 94 about 25 m height on R/V METEOR and averaged to 10 minute intervals for our 95 investigations. Atmospheric profiles of temperature, wind and humidity were obtained by 98 96 radiosonde launches at standard UTC time (0, 6, 12, 18 UTC) and additionally 3 hourly 97 during the diurnal stations along the cruise track, using Vaisala RS92 radiosondes. Due to 98 permission limitations, radiosondes could not be launched within 12 nautical miles of the 99 Peruvian coast. The collected radiosonde data was integrated in near real time into the Global 100 Telecommunication System (GTS) to improve meteorological reanalysis (e.g. ERA-Interim) 101 and operational European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecast models (opECMWF).

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## 103 2.2 MABL height

104 The radiosonde data are used to identify the height of the MABL, which is the atmospheric surface layer above the ocean in which trace gas emissions are mixed horizontally on a short 105 time scale of an hour or less by convection and turbulence (Stull, 1988). Two different kinds 106 of MABL can be distinguished, the convective and the stable MABL, which can be 107 characterized by the gradient of the virtual potential temperature  $\theta_{v}$ . A negative or neutral 108 gradient reveals an unstable convective layer, while a positive gradient reveals a stable 109 atmospheric layer. In case of an increase of the virtual potential temperature near the surface, 110 mixing in the MABL is suppressed. The upper limit of the convective MABL is set by a 111 stable layer, e.g., a temperature inversion or a significant reduction in air moisture and is 112 113 typically found above open ocean regions between 100 m and 3 km height (Stull, 1988;Seibert et al., 2000). For the determination of this stable layer above the convective 114 MABL, we use the practical approach described in Seibert et al. (2000) and compute the 115 virtual potential temperature during the radiosonde ascent whose increase with altitude 116 117 indicates the base of a *stable layer*. In this study the base of this *stable layer* increased by half of this stable layer depth is the definition for the MABL height. Over oceanic upwelling 118 regions this stable layer can even descend to the ocean surface (e.g. Höflich et al., 1972 and 119 Fuhlbrügge et al., 2013). 120

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## 122 2.2.1 Relative humidity

Estimates for atmospheric surface stability and MABL conditions in oceanic upwelling region can also be obtained from variations of the surface humidity. While the absolute humidity determines the amount of water in a specific volume of air, the relative humidity is the ratio of the partial pressure of water vapour to the equilibrium vapour pressure at the observed temperature. Variations of the SAT therefore directly influence the relative humidity at the surface. A decrease of the SAT due to cold upwelling water leads to an increase of the relative humidity, while the absolute humidity stays constant or even decreases due to condensation of water vapour once the relative humidity reaches 100 % and
the air is saturated with water vapour. An elevated relative humidity in this oceanic region
therefore points to stable layers with suppressed mixing of surface air and to a low and stable
MABL height.

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## 135 **2.2.2 Estimation of MABL height above the upwelling**

To estimate the MABL height above upwelling areas close to the coast, where radiosonde launches were permitted (Section 2.1) a multiple linear regression was applied. Using observed meteorological parameters revealing significant correlations (see Section 3.5) with the observed MABL height, relative humidity  $(x_1)$ , SAT  $(x_2)$ , SST  $(x_3)$  and wind speed  $(x_4)$ , along the cruise we obtained the following Eq. 1:

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MABL height = 
$$b_1 x_1 + b_2 x_2 + b_3 x_3 + b_4 x_4$$
 (Eq. 1)  
with  $b_1 = -0.0117$ ;  $b_2 = 0.0202$ ;  $b_3 = 0.0467$ ;  $b_4 = 0.0089$ 

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#### 143 **2.3 Atmospheric VSLS measurements**

A total of 198 air samples were collected 3 hourly during the cruise at about 20 m height on 144 the  $5^{th}$  superstructure deck of R/V METEOR using a portside jib of 5 - 6 m. The air samples 145 were pressurized to 2 atm in pre-cleaned stainless steel canisters with a metal bellows pump 146 and were analysed at the Rosenstiel School for Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (RSMAS, 147 148 Miami, Florida) within 6 months after the cruise. Details about the analysis, the instrumental precision and the preparation of the samples are described in Schauffler et al. (1999) and 149 150 Fuhlbrügge et al. (2013). The atmospheric mixing ratios were calculated with a NOAA standard (SX3573) from GEOMAR. 151

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### 153 **2.4 Oceanic concentrations and sea – air flux**

102 water samples were taken 3 hourly at a depth of 6.8 m from a continuously working 155 water pump in the hydrographic shaft, an opening in the base of the ship hull of R/V Meteor, 156 after December 9, 2012. The samples were then analysed for bromoform, dibromomethane 157 and methyl iodide and other halogenated trace gases by a purge and trap system, attached to a 158 gas chromatograph combined with an ECD (electron capture detector) with a precision of 10 159 % determined from duplicates. The approach is described in detail by Hepach et al. (2014).

#### 161 **2.4.1 Sea – air flux**

162 The sea – air flux (*F*) of bromoform, dibromomethane and methyl iodide is calculated with  $k_w$ 163 as transfer coefficient and  $\Delta c$  as concentration gradient between the water and equilibrium 164 water concentration determined from the atmospheric concentrations (Eq. 2). The transfer 165 coefficient was determined by the air – sea gas exchange parameterization of Nightingale et 166 al. (2000) after a Schmidt number (*Sc*) correction for the three gases (Eq. 3).

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$$F = k_w \cdot \Delta c \tag{Eq. 2}$$

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$$k_w = k_{CO_2} \cdot \frac{Sc^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{600}$$
 (Eq. 3)

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Details on deriving the air – sea concentration gradient and emissions are further described in
Hepach et al. (2014) and references therein.

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## 173 2.5 Trajectory calculations

The Lagrangian Particle Dispersion Model FLEXPART of the Norwegian Institute for Air 174 Research in the Department of Atmospheric and Climate Research (Stohl et al., 2005) was 175 176 used to analyse the air mass origins and the transport of surface air masses along the cruise track to the free troposphere (Stohl et al., 1998;Stohl and Trickl, 1999). The model includes 177 moist convection and turbulence parameterizations in the atmospheric boundary layer and 178 free troposphere (Stohl and Thomson, 1999;Forster et al., 2007). We use the ECMWF 179 (European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts) reanalysis product ERA-Interim 180 (Dee et al., 2011) with a horizontal resolution of 1° x 1° and 60 vertical model levels as 181 meteorological input fields, providing air temperature, horizontal and vertical winds, 182 boundary layer height, specific humidity, as well as convective and large scale precipitation 183 with a 6 hourly temporal resolution. Due to the spatial resolution of ERA-Interim data along 184 the Peruvian coast defining the land-sea mask of our trajectory calculations, 98 out of 140 185 186 release points for the forward and backward trajectory calculations were analysed along the cruise track. At each these release points 10,000 forward and 50 backward trajectories were 187 launched from the ocean surface within  $\pm$  30 minutes and ~20 m distance to the ship position. 188 Time and position of the release events are synchronized with air samples taken on R/V 189 190 METEOR (Section 2.3).

#### 192 2.6 Oceanic contribution to MABL VSLS abundances

To obtain an estimate of the contribution of local oceanic sources to the atmospheric mixing 193 ratios in the lowermost atmosphere above the Peruvian upwelling we apply a mass balance 194 concept to the oceanic emissions, to the time scales of air mass transport and to the chemical 195 loss (Fuhlbrügge et al., 2015). First we define a box above each release event with a size of 196  $\sim$ 400 m<sup>2</sup> around the measurement location and the height of the MABL and assume a steady-197 state observed VSLS mixing ratio within the box (Figure 1). During each trajectory release 198 event we assume the specific sea-air flux to be constant and the emissions to be 199 200 homogeneously mixed within the box. Then the contribution of the sea-air flux is computed as the ratio of the VSLS flux from the ocean into the MABL (in mol per day) and the total 201 amount of VSLS in the box (in mol) and is defined as the Oceanic Delivery (OD) and OD is 202 given in percentage per day. In addition to the delivery of oceanic VSLS to the box, the loss 203 of VSLS out of the box into the free troposphere is defined as the COnvective Loss (COL) 204 and is derived from the mean residence time derived from the FLEXPART trajectories in the 205 box during each release event. Since this process is a loss process, COL is given as a negative 206 quantity and in percentage per day. The chemical degradation of VSLS by OH and photolysis 207 in the MABL is considered by the chemical lifetime of each compound in the MABL. We use 208 209 lifetimes of 16 days for bromoform and 60 days for dibromomethane (Hossaini et al., 2010) and 3 days for methyl iodide (R. Hossaini, personal communication), representative for the 210 tropical boundary layer. The Chemical Loss (CL) acts as loss process as well and is given as 211 a negative quantity in percentage per day. We further assume a steady state in the box. OD, 212 213 COL and CL must therefore be balanced by an advective transport of air masses in and out of the box. The change of the VSLS through advective transport is defined as Advective 214 Delivery (AD) and given in percentage per day. 215

By ratio OD to COL, we estimate an Oceanic Delivery Ratio (ODR) (Eq. 4):

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$$ODR = \frac{OD \left[\% d^{-1}\right]}{-COL \left[\% d^{-1}\right]} = \frac{Sea - Air flux contribution \left[\% d^{-1}\right]}{Loss of box air to the FT \left[\% d^{-1}\right]}$$
(Eq. 4)

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Similarly, the Chemical Loss in the box (CL) and the change in VSLS due to advection (AD) are related to COL to get the Chemical Loss Ratio (CLR) and the Advective Delivery Ratio (ADR) with ADR = 1 - CLR - ODR. Since CL, OD and AD are divided by -COL, ratios for source processes are positive and negative for loss processes (Fuhlbrügge et al., 2015).

#### **3. Observations on R/V METEOR**

### 225 **3.1. Meteorological observations**

The Peruvian coast is dominated by the southern hemisphere trade wind regime with 226 predominantly southeast winds (Figure 2). The Andes, which are known to act as a barrier to 227 zonal wind in this region, affect the horizontal air mass transport along the coast (Figure 2b-228 d). The steeply sloping mountains at the coast form strong winds parallel to the South 229 American coastline (Garreaud and Munoz, 2005), leading to distinct wind-driven oceanic 230 upwelling of cold water along the coast. The 10-day backward trajectories reveal 231 predominantly near-shore air masses with coastal influence and marine air masses (Figure 2). 232 The average wind direction observed on R/V Meteor during the cruise is 160  $^{\circ} \pm$  34  $^{\circ}$  (mean 233  $\pm \sigma$ ) with a moderate average wind speed of 6.2  $\pm$  2.2 ms<sup>-1</sup> (Figure 3b). ERA-Interim reveals 234 similar winds along the cruise track with a mean wind speed of 5.6  $\pm$  1.8 ms<sup>-1</sup> and a mean 235 wind direction of 168  $^{\circ} \pm 21 ^{\circ}$  (not shown here). The divergence of the wind driven Ekman 236 transport along the Peruvian coast leads to the observed oceanic upwelling of cold waters. 237 The most intense upwelling is observed for several times near the coast where both, SST and 238 SAT rapidly drop from 19 – 22 °C to less than 18 °C (Figure 3a). The impact of the cold 239 upwelling water on the observed air masses is also visible in the observed humidity fields 240 241 (Figure 3c). Here, the decreasing SAT reduces the amount of water vapour that the surface air is able to contain, leading to an increase of the relative humidity. The decreasing SAT and 242 increasing relative humidity above the oceanic upwelling indicate a stable atmospheric 243 surface layer with suppressed vertical mixing. The absolute humidity stays constant or even 244 245 decreases above the oceanic upwelling due to condensation of water vapour when surface air cools and becomes saturated, which coincides with fog observations on the ship above the 246 upwelling regions. A decrease of the absolute humidity outside the upwelling points to a 247 change in advected air masses for example between December 9 and 11, but also on 248 December 19, 2012 (Figure 3c). 249

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## 251 3.2. VSLS observations and oceanic emissions

Surface bromoform concentrations in the Peruvian upwelling are generally lower during the cruise compared to the Mauritanian upwelling while dibromomethane surface water concentrations are comparable. However methyl iodide concentrations are almost 8 times higher than in the Mauritanian upwelling (Figure 3d, Table 1, Hepach et al., 2014). Samples taken in the upwelling areas show elevated concentrations compared to the open ocean for all compounds. For further discussion on the distribution of the oceanic halocarbons, see Hepachet al. (2016, submitted to ACPD).

Atmospheric mixing ratios of bromoform are on average  $2.91 \pm 0.68$  ppt (Table 1). 259 Dibromomethane mixing ratios of  $1.25 \pm 0.26$  ppt ppt are low and show a similar temporal 260 pattern with bromoform (Table 3). Mixing ratios of both compounds are significantly lower 261 above the Peruvian upwelling compared to observations above the Mauritanian upwelling, 262 while methyl iodide mixing ratios are comparable (Fuhlbrügge et al., 2013). Elevated mixing 263 ratios for all three compounds are generally found above intense cold oceanic upwelling 264 265 regions close to the Peruvian coast (Figure 3e). While the bromocarbons double above the upwelling, methyl iodide mixing ratios increase up to 5-fold, showing its stronger 266 accumulation in the low boundary layer. 267

The concentration ratio of dibromomethane and bromoform can be used as an indicator of 268 fresh bromocarbon sources along coastal areas. Low ratios of about 0.1 have been observed at 269 270 coastal source regions and are interpreted as the emission ratios of macro algae (Yokouchi et al., 2005;Carpenter et al., 2003). The applied shorter mean lifetime of bromoform (15 days) 271 in contrast to dibromomethane (94 days) in the boundary layer after Carpenter et al. (2014) 272 leads to an increase of the ratio during transport as long as the air mass is not enriched with 273 274 fresh bromoform. A general decrease of the concentration ratio is found from the North to the South during the cruise (Figure 3f), implying relatively remote air masses in the North and an 275 intensification of fresh sources towards the south, which is also reflected by the elevated 276 water concentrations. Atmospheric methyl iodide measurements along the cruise track reveal 277 278 a mean mixing ratio of  $1.54 \pm 0.49$  ppt, which, similar to the two bromocarbons, maximizes 279 over the coastal upwelling regions (Figure 3e).

Oceanic emissions during the cruise were calculated from the synchronized measurements of 280 sea water concentrations and atmospheric mixing ratios, sea surface temperatures and wind 281 speeds, measured on R/V METEOR (Section 2.4.1). Oceanic concentrations and atmospheric 282 mixing ratios of each compound are weakly or not at all correlated ( $R_{bromoform} = 0.00$ , 283  $R_{dibromomethane} = 0.29$  and  $R_{methyl iodide} = 0.34$ ). Mean sea-air fluxes of the bromocarbons during 284 the cruise are very low with  $117 \pm 492$  pmol m<sup>-2</sup> hr<sup>-1</sup> for bromoform and  $245 \pm 299$  pmol m<sup>-2</sup> 285  $hr^{-1}$  for dibromomethane, but for methyl iodide the fluxes are elevated with 856 ± 623 pmol 286 m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup> (Figure 3g, Table 1). Further investigations of the distributions and sources of 287 iodinated compounds during this cruise are carried out by Hepach et al. (2015b). 288

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## 290 **3.3. Lower atmosphere conditions**

The relative humidity shows a strong vertical gradient from over 75 % to less than 50 % at ~1 291 km height (Figure 4a) which indicates an increase of the atmospheric stability with height due 292 to suppressed mixing. This convective barrier, known as the trade inversion (Riehl, 1954, 293 1979;Höflich, 1972), is also reflected in the meridional wind (Figure 4b). Below ~1 km 294 altitude the Southeast trade winds create a strong positive meridional wind component, also 295 296 visible in the forward trajectories (Figure 2c-d). The flow of air masses in the Hadley Cell back to the subtropics causes a predominantly northerly wind above ~1 km height. The 297 intense increase of  $\theta_v$  in combination with the relative humidity decrease and the wind shear 298 299 at ~1 km height identifies this level as a strong vertical transport barrier (Figure 4c). Above the cold upwelling water, temperature inversions create additional stable layers above the 300 surface, leading to very low MABL heights of < 100 m, e.g., on December 03, 08 or 17, 2012 301 and to a reduced vertical transport of surface air. The mean MABL height from the 302 radiosonde observations is  $370 \pm 170$  m (ERA-Interim  $376 \pm 169$  m). The relative humidity, 303 SAT, SST and wind speed are good indicators for the MABL conditions in this oceanic 304 region and these meteorological parameters show significant correlations with the observed 305 306 MABL height (Table 3). Thus, we use a multiple linear regression based on these parameters to estimate the MABL height above the coastal upwelling (Section 2.2.2). The regressed 307 308 MABL heights above the cold upwelling regions are  $158 \pm 79$  m and go down to even 10 m as was previously observed above the Mauritanian Upwelling (Fuhlbrügge et al., 2013). With 309 the regressed MABL heights, the mean MABL height during the cruise decreases to 307  $\pm$ 310 177 m. The stable atmospheric conditions from the surface to the trade inversion lead to 311 strong transport barriers and to a supressed transport of surface and MABL air into the free 312 troposphere (Figure 4d). 313

We interpret the observations as the following. In the region of the Peruvian Upwelling, 314 compounds emitted from the ocean and observed at the marine surface are first 315 homogeneously distributed within the MABL during a couple of hours, before advection 316 transport them further within the second transport barrier of the lowermost atmosphere the 317 trade wind inversion. For air masses above or close to oceanic upwelling regions, the MABL 318 height is the first weak transport barrier on short time scales (hours), while the trade 319 inversions acts as the second more pronounced barrier for vertical transport on long time 320 scales (days). 321

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## 323 3.4. Contribution of oceanic emissions to observed VSLS abundances in the 324 MABL

We estimate the contribution of oceanic emissions to mixing ratios within the MABL and 325 below the trade inversion with a VSLS source-loss estimate (Table 2). The loss of VSLS out 326 of the MABL box is  $-351.0 \% d^{-1}$  and equal for all compounds, since it is computed from the 327 loss of trajectories out of the box. The loss is based on a mean residence time of the 328 FLEXPART trajectories of 7 hours in the observed MABL height during the cruise. The ratio 329 330 of the OD of each compound and the COL results in the particular ODR. The ODR reveals that on average only 3 % of the observed atmospheric bromoform in the MABL origins from 331 nearby oceanic emissions and that 99 % are advected. Local oceanic emissions of 332 333 dibromomethane contribute about 10 % of the observed abundances in the MABL, while methyl iodide emissions contribute with 28 %, which is far less compared to observations in 334 other source regions with high convection as in the South China and Sulu Seas (Fuhlbrügge 335 et al., 2015). Generally, the low ODRs along the cruise track are caused by the relatively low 336 oceanic emissions. Since the observed atmospheric concentrations cannot be explained by the 337 local oceanic emissions advection leads to the background concentrations of bromoform and 338 methyl iodide. According to the backward trajectories, potential source regions may be found 339 340 closer to the coast and to the South. The elevations of the atmospheric mixing ratios above the cold coastal upwelling can partly be explained by accumulation of local oceanic 341 342 emissions in the stable low MABL. However, as the emissions appear generally not strong enough, except for methyl iodide, to explain the mixing ratios, the contribution of coastal 343 sources is very likely (Figure 2b). While the surface air masses can leave the MABL within 344 hours, they are suppressed from entering the free troposphere through the trade inversion 345 346 barrier. Adapting an average trade inversion height of 1.1 km as the transport barrier for surface air masses into the free troposphere reveals an average residence time of the 347 FLEXPART trajectories of 48 hrs below this trade inversion height. The atmospheric VSLS 348 below the trade inversion originate to 11 % from oceanic emissions (ODR) for bromoform, to 349 33 % for dibromomethane and to 92 % for methyl iodide. The increased residence time of air 350 masses below the trade inversion, reflected by the FLEXPART trajectories, leads to a 351 stronger enrichment of air masses with VSLS from the oceanic emissions, reflected by OD, 352 compared to the MABL box. However, the low sea-air fluxes of bromoform and 353 dibromomethane are by far not strong enough to lead to the observed mixing ratios. These 354 numbers imply that observed VSLS concentrations are advected below the trade inversion in 355 the more open ocean regions during the cruise. An overall discussion is given in Section 4. 356

#### 358 **3.5.** Meteorological constrains on atmospheric VSLS in the MABL

Fuhlbrügge et al. (2013) identified the influence of meteorological conditions, in particular of 359 MABL height variations on VSLS abundances in the tropical Northeast Atlantic above the 360 Mauritanian Upwelling, and suggested a general correlation of MABL conditions and VSLS 361 abundances over oceanic upwelling regions. Indeed, we also find significant high correlations 362 363 between meteorological parameters and the abundances of bromoform, dibromomethane and methyl iodide (Table 3) along the Peruvian coast. The predominantly moderate winds during 364 the cruise are negatively correlated with the atmospheric VSLS and positively correlated with 365 366 the MABL height. This shows that VSLS abundances tend to be elevated during periods of lower wind speeds which occur also lead to reduced mixing of surface air and therefore to 367 lower MABL heights, in particular above the coastal upwelling events on December 11, 15-368 17 and 24, 2012, where local sources could accumulate even more. SAT and SST both are 369 negatively correlated with atmospheric VSLS, since elevated atmospheric VSLS mixing 370 371 ratios are generally found close to the oceanic upwelling regions with low SATs and SSTs. In these regions the decrease of the SATs leads to an increase of the relative humidity (section 372 373 3.1), resulting in a significantly high correlation between the surface relative humidity and the VSLS. Since SAT and SST impact the MABL, which affects the relative humidity, these 374 375 correlation coefficients are co-correlated with each other. Correlation coefficients between the MABL height and the VSLS are slightly lower (Table 3). A principle component analysis 376 of the parameters in Table 3 furthermore underlined a strong connection between SAT, SST, 377 MABL height, relative humidity and atmospheric mixing ratios of bromoform and 378 379 dibromomethane (not shown here).

The results reveal that the MABL properties (height and stability) during M91 influence the 380 VSLS abundances at the marine surface, although not as distinct as above the Mauritanian 381 Upwelling during the DRIVE campaign (Fuhlbrügge et al., 2013). A comparison between the 382 observations from this campaign and DRIVE (Figure 5) shows that the lower variance of 383 observations during M91 may explain the lower correlation. Generally higher emissions and 384 occasional lower and even more stable MABL-heights during DRIVE can explain up to 385 100% of the atmospheric abundances (Fuhlbrügge et al., 2013;Hepach et al., 2014), while 386 387 during M91 the observed elevations could only partly be explained by the local oceanic emissions. 388

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## 390 **4. Discussion**

The observations reveal a significant correlation between the MABL height and atmospheric 391 VSLS abundances above the Peruvian Upwelling. However, the correlation coefficients 392 between the determined MABL height and the atmospheric VSLS are not as high as above 393 the Mauritanian Upwelling during the DRIVE campaign (Fuhlbrügge et al., 2013). Reasons 394 might be the large area of the investigated region in the Northeast Atlantic Ocean during the 395 DRIVE campaign (25 ° latitude x 10 ° longitude) in contrast to this study along the Peruvian 396 coast (12 ° latitude x 2 ° longitude). M91 observations therefore involve less variability of 397 covered oceanic regimes of open ocean and coastal upwelling, VSLS concentrations and 398 399 meteorological parameters, in particular of the MABL height, than the DRIVE observations. 400 The Andes along South America lead to predominantly Southerly winds along the West coast line with minor continental influence, while the Mauritanian Upwelling is influenced by both, 401 maritime and continental air masses. The latter can lead to strong surface inversions above 402 the Mauritanian Upwelling and strongly suppressed mixing of surface air. Although our 403 404 investigations revealed low MABL heights close to the Peruvian coast, the distinct surface inversions as observed above the Mauritanian Upwelling are not present in the available 405 406 radiosonde data for this Peruvian Upwelling region. In addition, the relatively low sea-air fluxes of bromoform and dibromomethane, caused by moderate winds and small 407 408 concentration gradients between the surface ocean and the surface atmosphere, as well as the short lifetime of methyl iodide lead to an insufficient enrichment of VSLS in the atmosphere. 409 The observed air masses therefore contain VSLS mixing ratios which are predominantly 410 advected. This is confirmed by our computed ADR (Section 3.4). The backward trajectories 411 412 reveal air masses originating from the open ocean, which are transported along the coast for about 5 days until they reach the ship. In combination with the distinct trade inversion acting 413 as strong barrier to the vertical mixing of trace gases, air-masses along the coast travel close 414 to the surface where they can be enriched with local emissions before they are observed on-415 board. In addition, the in-situ observed oceanic emissions along the cruise track of R/V 416 METEOR therefore cause small variations to the accumulated background mixing ratios of 417 the advected air masses. This leads to lower correlation coefficients between the MABL 418 height and the VSLS abundances compared to the Mauritanian Upwelling. 419

Although the oceanic emissions are already well mixed within days below the trade inversion, methyl iodide mixing ratios indicate a positive correlation with the trade inversion height, which is unexpected. The correlation coefficient might be artificial, as we observe elevated methyl iodide above the upwelling, where trade wind inversion heights are missing but can be assumed to be low (Riehl, 1954), which is also indicated by the correlation 425 coefficients with SAT and SST. Nevertheless, this circumstance should be taken into account426 in future studies.

The contribution of oceanic emissions to the atmospheric mixing ratios in the MABL of the 427 Peruvian upwelling reveals to be rather low in its more open ocean area under the given 428 meteorological conditions. While the cruise track covered a representative area of the 429 430 Peruvian upwelling elevated oceanic VSLS emissions that could explain the generally high atmospheric VSLS were only observed for methyl iodide. Bromocarbon emissions would 431 have to be two magnitudes larger to explain the observed VMR in the more open ocean 432 433 regions and a magnitude larger in the direct coastal upwelling regions with low MABL heights. These observations of the brominated compounds need to include upwind advection 434 of elevated sources from the South, and higher elevated coastal emissions not measured 435 during the cruise, while dynamical fluctuations in emissions scenarios close to the cruise time 436 and place may also have to be considered. 437

Uncertainties may result from the applied method, which accounts for a 400  $m^2$  box around a 438 measurement point assuming steady state. The cruise track covered a significantly large area 439 of the Peruvian Upwelling between 5° S and 16° S and higher elevated seas surface 440 concentrations and emissions are not to be expected during these rather stable meteorological 441 442 conditions. Additional uncertainties in our source-loss estimate may arise from deficiencies in the meteorological input fields from ERA-Interim reanalysis as well as from the air mass 443 transport simulated by FLEXPART. Both could lead to either a shorter or longer residence 444 time of the surface air masses within the MABL or below the trade inversion and thus 445 446 influence the COL term. In particular very close to the coast, where the source-loss estimate could not be applied due to the trajectory analysis gaps (Section 2.5), the ODRs of the 447 compounds might be different. Here potential high coastal emissions in combination with 448 stable atmospheric stratification leading to slow vertical transport into the free troposphere, 449 could significantly increase the oceanic contribution to the MABL and to the atmosphere 450 below the trade inversion and explain the elevated atmospheric mixing ratios. In addition, 451 different parameterizations for the wind-based transfer coefficient kw, as discussed in 452 Lennartz et al. (2015) and Fuhlbrügge et al (2015) in more detail, can impact the air-sea gas 453 exchange and thus the ODRs. Applying the k<sub>w</sub> parameterizations of Liss and Merlivat 454 (1986) as well as Wanninkhof and McGillis (1999) lead both to mean ODRs in the MABL of 455 0.02 (bromoform), 0.07 (dibromomethane) and 0.21 (methyl iodide) and below the trade 456 inversion of 0.08 / 0.08 (bromoform), 0.25 / 0.26 (dibromomethane) and 0.69 / 0.75 (methyl 457 iodide) and thus an even lower oceanic contribution to the atmosphere in this region. Further 458

uncertainties may arise from variations of the MABL VSLS lifetimes and thus the chemical 459 degradation of the compounds we use in this study. This would affect the computed 460 advection (ADR) and not the oceanic contribution. After the air masses are observed on R/V 461 METEOR, the 10 day FLEXPART forward trajectories reveal a near-surface transport 462 towards the equator (Figure 2c-d). These trajectories predominantly stay below 1 km altitude 463 due to the horizontal extent of the trade inversion. The contribution of oceanic VSLS 464 emissions from the Peruvian Upwelling to the free troposphere above this region is therefore 465 strongly suppressed by the trade inversion (Figure 4d). A contribution of oceanic emissions 466 467 from the Peruvian Upwelling to the free troposphere is only achieved in the inner tropics after a transport time of 5 - 8 days, where the VSLS abundances are transported into higher 468 altitudes. Since the lifetime of methyl iodide is only 4 days in the MABL a significant 469 contribution of methyl iodide from the Peruvian upwelling to observations made by 470 Yokouchi et al. (2008) at San Cristobal, Galapagos is not to be expected. However, it can 471 472 partly explain the elevated IO observed above the Peruvian upwelling (Hepach et al., 2016, to be submitted; Schönhardt et al., 2008). The elevated mixing ratios of methyl iodide is further 473 474 investigated by Hepach et al. (2015b). It has to be noted that the determined low contribution of oceanic emissions and boundary layer air to the free troposphere in this region is only 475 476 representative for normal El Niño Southern Oscillation conditions as it was observed in December 2012 477

(http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis\_monitoring/enso\_disc\_nov2012/ensodisc.p
df). Since the Walker Circulation is reversed during El Niño, upwelling along the Peruvian
coast is known to be suppressed and convective activity enhanced (Philander, 1989).

481

#### 482 **5. Summary**

This study investigated the contribution of oceanic emissions to VSLS abundances in the lowermost atmosphere as well as meteorological constrains on this contribution above both, coastal upwelling and open ocean along the Peruvian coast during December 2012. Meteorological data were obtained on R/V METEOR near the ocean surface and by radiosondes up to the stratosphere. Oceanic VSLS emissions along the cruise track were determined from air and surface water data. The transport of air masses was determined with FLEXPART trajectories.

490 Oceanic upwelling was observed close to the Peruvian coast. On average a low, stable MABL 491 height of  $307 \pm 177$  m was encountered during the cruise, decreasing to on average 100 m 492 above the upwelling. A distinct trade inversion at  $1.1 \pm 0.3$  km height evolved as the

dominant transport barrier for MABL air into the free troposphere during the cruise. The 493 halogenated VSLS bromoform and dibromomethane showed low oceanic emissions of 117  $\pm$ 494 492 pmol m<sup>-2</sup> hr<sup>-1</sup> for bromoform and 245  $\pm$  299 pmol m<sup>-2</sup> hr<sup>-1</sup> for dibromomethane, while 495 methyl iodide emissions were elevated with 856  $\pm$  623 pmol m<sup>-2</sup> hr<sup>-1</sup>. The atmospheric 496 mixing ratios of the compounds were elevated with 2.9  $\pm$  0.7 ppt (bromoform), 1.3  $\pm$  0.3 ppt 497 (dibromomethane) and  $1.5 \pm 0.5$  ppt (methyl iodide). The oceanic emissions along the cruise 498 track explained on average only 3 % (-8 to 33 %) of bromoform, 10 % (-5 to 45 %) of 499 dibromomethane, and 28 % (3 to 80 %) of methyl iodide abundances in the MABL. Thus, the 500 501 expected significant contribution of local oceanic VSLS emissions from the Peruvian upwelling to the overlying atmosphere was not captured during the time and location of the 502 cruise. The elevated atmospheric VSLS mixing ratios above the Peruvian upwelling therefore 503 appear largely advected and enriched along the Peruvian coast before reaching the ship. 504 Additional potential source regions must exist closer to the coast and also further South of the 505 cruise track along the coast line. Nevertheless, significant correlations between the MABL 506 height and marine atmospheric abundances of the VSLS reveal an impact of the oceanic 507 emissions on the atmospheric VSLS mixing ratio variations. 508

509 Our study confirms that MABL height and stability are generally related with atmospheric 510 VSLS abundances above oceanic upwelling regions. Additionally, a widespread trade inversion can lead to a near-surface accumulation of the VSLS and thus also impact oceanic 511 emissions. Despite the observed elevated atmospheric concentrations during the cruise, a 512 significant contribution of oceanic emissions to the atmosphere, in particular of the 513 514 bromocarbons bromoform and dibromomethane, was not identified in the observed area during the time of the cruise. Further studies are necessary to clearly uncover the source 515 regions of the elevated atmospheric VSLS in the Peruvian upwelling. Also the double 516 transport barrier phenomena should be investigated in future studies of other oceanic 517 upwelling regions as well. 518

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## 528 Figures



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530 Figure 1: Schematic summery of the components of the applied mass-balance concept from

Fuhlbrügge et al. (2015): Oceanic Delivery (OD), the Convective Loss (COL), the Chemical
Loss (CL), the Advective Delivery (AD), the Oceanic Delivery Ratio (ODR), the Chemical

533 Loss Ratio (CLR) and the Advective Delivery Ratio (ADR). The shaded area reflects an area 534 of  $400 \text{ m}^2$ .





Figure 2a-d: (a) 10 minute mean of wind speed observed on R/V METEOR displayed along the cruise track; monthly mean (December 2012) of 10 m wind speed and direction from ERA-Interim displayed as arrows. (b) Extract from 10-day FLEXPART backward trajectories coloured according to the time until they reach the specific ship position on the cruise track of R/V METEOR (black). (c) Extract from 10-day FLEXPART forward trajectories coloured according to the time since they were released. (d) same as c) coloured according to the height (km) of the trajectories.



- Figure 3a-e: Observations during December 1 25, 2012 on R/V METEOR. Diurnal stations
- are indicated by grey background shades. (a) 10 minute mean of the SAT (orange) and the
- 547 SST (blue) in °C. According to SST decrease, upwelling regions are marked with a light blue
- 548 background shade in Figure 3b-e. (b) 10 minute mean of wind direction in cardinal directions
- 549 (ocher) and wind speed in m/s (blue). (c) 10 minute mean of relative humidity in % (dark
- 550 blue) and absolute humidity in  $gm^{-3}$  (green). (d) Oceanic surface concentrations of
- bromoform (CHBr<sub>3</sub>, blue), dibromomethane (CH<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>, dark grey) and methyl iodide (CH<sub>3</sub>I,
- red) in pmol  $L^{-1}$ . (e) Atmospheric mixing ratios of bromoform, dibromomethane and methyl
- 553 iodide in ppt. (f) Concentration ratio of dibromomethane and bromoform. (g) Sea-air flux for
- bromoform, dibromomethane and methyl iodide in pmol  $m^{-2} h^{-1}$ .

- 555 Table 1: Oceanic concentrations, atmospheric mixing ratios and sea-air fluxes of bromoform
- $(CHBr_3)$ , dibromomethane  $(CH_2Br_2)$ , the concentration ratio of bromoform and
- 557 dibromomethane and methyl iodide (CH<sub>3</sub>I) observed during the cruise. Values are given in
- 558 mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  [range].

	CHBr <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> Br <sub>2</sub>	$CH_2Br_2$ / $CHBr_3$	CH <sub>3</sub> I
Oceanic concentration	$6.6 \pm 5.5$	$4.3 \pm 3.4$	$0.9\pm0.8$	$9.8\pm6.3$
$[pmol L^{-1}]$	[0.2 – 21.5]	[0.2 – 12.7]	[0.1 - 4.2]	[1.1 – 35.4]
Atmospheric mixing ratio	$2.9\pm0.7$	$1.3 \pm 0.3$	$0.4 \pm 0.1$	$1.5\pm0.5$
[ppt]	[1.5 – 5.9]	[0.8 - 2.0]	[0.3 - 0.7]	[0.6 - 3.2]
Sea-air flux	$117\pm492$	$245\pm299$	$0.4 \pm 8.6$	$856\pm623$
$[pmol m^{-2} hr^{-1}]$	[-477 – 1916]	[-112 – 1169]	[-24.5 – 48.9]	[18 - 4179]



Figure 4: (a-c) Radiosonde observations of the lower 6 km of the atmosphere between 564 December 2 and 24, 2012 on R/V Meteor. Shown are (a) the relative humidity in %, (b) the 565 meridional wind in m/s and (c) the gradient of the virtual potential temperature in  $E^{-2}$  K/m in 566 combination with the determined MABL height (black) and the complimented MABL height 567 above the oceanic upwelling from the multiple linear regressions (blue). (d) Distribution of 568 10-day FLEXPART forward trajectories. The black contour lines give the amount of 569 570 trajectories in percentage that reach a specific altitude within the 10 days. The elapsed time in days until these trajectories reach this height is reflected by the colour shading. The white line 571 shows the ERA-Interim MABL height at the ship position. Trajectory analyses gaps close to 572 the coast are whitened (Section 2.5). The y-axes are non-linear. 573

- 574 Table 2: Mean  $\pm 1\sigma$  of Oceanic Delivery (OD), Advective Delivery (AD), Chemical Loss
- 575 (CL), COnvective Loss (COL), Oceanic Delivery Ratio (ODR), Advective Delivery Ratio
- 576 (ADR) and Chemical Loss Ratio (CLR) of bromoform (CHBr<sub>3</sub>), dibromomethane (CH<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>)
- and methyl iodide (CH<sub>3</sub>I). Parameters have been computed for a box with the vertical
- 578 extension of the MABL height (MABLH) and a mean trade inversion height of 1.1 km (TIH).

		OD	AD	CL	COL	ODB		CLR
		$[\% d^{-1}]$	$[\% d^{-1}]$	$[\% d^{-1}]$	$[\% d^{-1}]$	UDK	ADK	
CHBr <sub>3</sub>	MABLH	9.1	349.0	-7.1	-351.0	0.03	0.99	-0.02
		$\pm 28.0$	± 113.4		± 109.4	$\pm 0.08$	$\pm 0.08$	$\pm 0.01$
	TIH	3.9	53.2	-7.1	-50.0	0.11	1.06	-0.17
		± 12.0	$\pm 23.2$		± 18.4	$\pm 0.4$	± 0.39	$\pm 0.07$
$CH_2Br_2$	MABLH	32.1	320.1	-1.2	-351.0	0.10	0.90	-0.00
		± 38.7	± 115.6		± 109.4	$\pm 0.11$	$\pm 0.11$	$\pm 0.00$
	TIH	13.8	37.4	-1.2	-50.0	0.33	0.7	-0.03
		± 16.5	± 25.9		± 18.4	$\pm 0.54$	$\pm 0.54$	$\pm 0.01$
CH <sub>3</sub> I	MABLH	88.9	286.1	24.0	-351.0	0.28	0.80	-0.08
		$\pm 48.1$	± 119.7	-24.0	± 109.4	$\pm 0.17$	$\pm 0.16$	$\pm 0.03$
	TIH	36.8	37.2	-24.0	-50.0	0.92	0.64	-0.56
		± 20.5	$\pm 32.1$		± 18.4	$\pm 0.69$	$\pm 0.55$	$\pm 0.24$

Table 3: Spearman correlation coefficients (R) of meteorological parameters, MABL height and trade inversion height correlated with atmospheric bromoform (CHBr<sub>3</sub>), dibromomethane (CH<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>) and methyl iodide (CH<sub>3</sub>I). MABL height\* is the determined MABL height from the radiosonde launches, complimented by the regressed MABL height (Section 3.3). Bold coefficients have a p-value of < 0.05.

	MABL height	MABL height*	Trade inversion	CHBr <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> Br <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> I
Wind speed	0.35	0.44	-0.06	-0.38	-0.53	-0.33
SAT	0.65	0.79	0.24	-0.50	-0.78	-0.37
SST	0.66	0.80	0.23	-0.57	-0.81	-0.42
SAT – SST	-0.39	-0.47	-0.11	0.38	0.48	0.30
Rel. humidity	-0.77	-0.81	-0.06	0.74	0.77	0.67
MABL height*	-	-	0.08	-0.55	-0.61	-0.45
CHBr <sub>3</sub>	-0.55	-0.60	-0.03	-	0.79	0.79
CH <sub>2</sub> Br <sub>2</sub>	-0.61	-0.72	-0.02	0.79	-	0.66
CH <sub>3</sub> I	-0.45	-0.50	0.30	0.79	0.66	-



Figure 5: Scatter plots of atmospheric mixing ratios of bromoform, dibromomethane, methyl
iodide and relative humidity vs. MABL height. Black circles reflect observations from the
DRIVE campaign in the Mauritanian Upwelling (Fuhlbrügge et al., 2013) and red circles
from this study (M91). R<sub>total</sub> gives the Spearman correlation coefficients for both data sets
together.

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