

Reply to Referee #1

We thank Referee #1 for their helpful suggestions. We replied to the comments below. The bold text refers to the referee's comments, and the text in italics are additions to the manuscript. The line numbers mentioned in the text below refer to the ACPD version of the manuscript.

I. General comments

1. **The research follows other studies considering the effect of cloud cover on NPF events (Baranizadeh et al in Boreal Env. Research) and several criteria for predicting new particle formation (papers by Kuang (ACP 10 8469), and Hyvonen, Nieminen as cited in the manuscript), some of which have also considered solar radiation levels. This research shows that cloudiness, condensation sink and temperature, when used together, can effectively predict the probability of a nucleation event at this important field station in spring, but rather less effectively in summer, autumn and winter. The authors should be more explicit in motivating their work. Yes, aerosols are important for climate and nucleation is an important source of aerosols, but it should be explained more clearly why predicting the probability of a nucleation event in springtime at Hyttiala will help people improve their understanding of the atmosphere. For example, the authors could point out that Hyttiala is reasonably representative of semiclean forested environments in the Northern Hemisphere, and that it is a suitable site without too many highly localised sources of aerosol that are difficult to model. And, since the authors present a criterion that is only effective in spring, explain that this is the most important season for NPF. And that 20 years of detailed observation data are not readily available at other sites.**

We agree with the reviewer that it is important to mention the characteristics of Hyttiälä that make the location interesting and important for studying NPF. Accordingly, the following has been added to the manuscript (Line 55):

The Station for Measuring Forest Ecosystem-Atmosphere Relations (SMEAR II) located in Hyttiälä, southern Finland, compiles up to 21 years of particle number size distribution and extensive complementary data, providing the longest size distribution time series in the world, and hence allows for robust NPF analysis which is not readily possible at other sites. The station is located in a homogenous Scots pine forest far from major pollution sources. Hyttiälä, thus, is classified as a background site representative of the semi-clean northern hemisphere boreal forests.

Our focus on springtime is explained more thoroughly following the reviewer's suggestion (line 235):

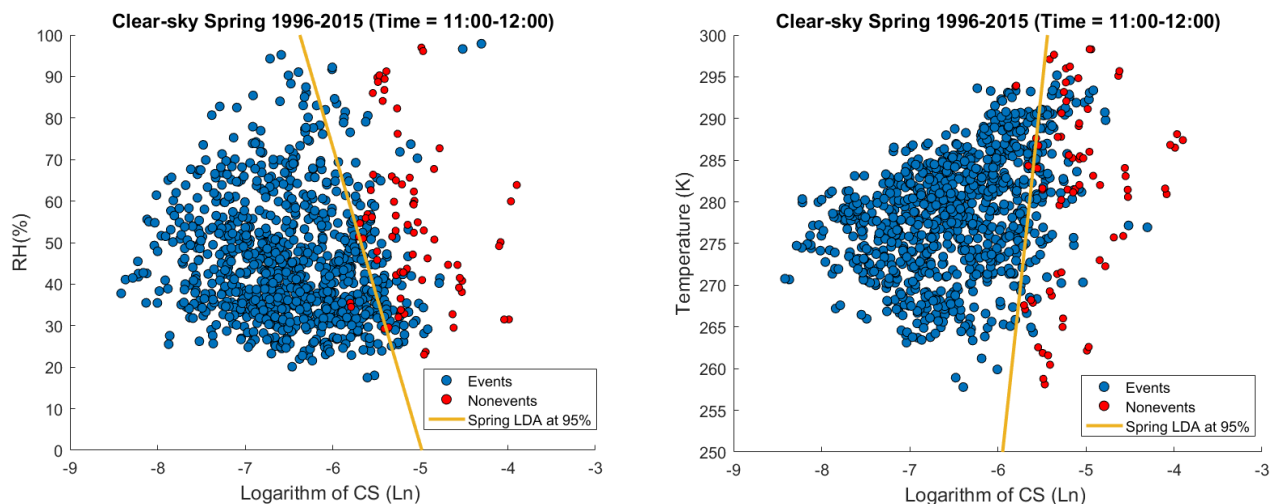
Since NPF is most frequent in spring, we dedicate our focus on this season (Figure 3a).

2. **The authors investigate several other variables that should be correlated to NPF event probability, but they do not explain why CS and temperature, and not the other variables, feature in their final criterion. For example, the box-and-whisker plots (where the cloudiness parameter is than 0.7, indicating clear skies) do not clearly suggest that on clear sky days, T offers a better separation between NPF events and non-events than RH. The correlation matrix shows RH and CS are less correlated than T and CS, so RH might have more discriminating power. Moreover, RH on non-event days is almost always higher than on event days, while temperature on non-event days is higher in winter and spring but lower in autumn and winter. Therefore, in principle one might expect RH to be a better second variable than T when all seasons are considered, in line**

with Hyvonen et al, even after one has separated clear sky days and cloudy days as suggested by Baranizadeh et al already. The authors should quantitatively demonstrate why their criterion offers better discriminating power than a few other obvious possibilities, such as RH/CS.

Looking at the median values presented in RH monthly box plots in Figure 5c, might give the idea that RH values are clearly separated between events and non-events. Considering the wider spread in the RH data (25%-75% percentiles) for events and nonevents as seen in the boxplots, we feel this parameter is less conclusive in separating the two classes. However, based on the reviewer's suggestion, we plot RH vs CS (spring time window 11:00-12:00) below and compare it to T vs CS (spring time window 11:00-12:00) plot. The line in the figure is the Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA) at 95% confidence that all the nonevent points are outside the line (to the right). The plots show that RH does not result in better separation than temperature (events from nonevents) as CS sink seems to be the main controlling factor. We then conclude that during clear-sky conditions the results are somewhat different from what Hyvönen et al. (2005) who did not consider clear-sky conditions only. Based on the aforementioned results, and following the reviewer's suggestion, we add the following to the text to line 369:

Furthermore, we analyzed the effect of RH in separating the events from nonevents, similar to the study done on RH by Hyvönen et al. 2005. We found that compared with CS vs temperature data, depicting CS vs RH (data not presented) did not work better in separating NPF events from non-events during clear-sky conditions.



3. In addition to the criterion for new particle formation events, the paper also aims to quantify the effect of cloudiness on NPF event frequency. However, this was done already by Baranizadeh et al and it should be made clearer what this manuscript adds to this relatively comprehensive previous work. The authors should either remove all but a very brief summary of this from the paper, or state clearly how their analysis relates to that of Baranizadeh et al with a sentence like "Our work confirms the conclusions of Baranizadeh et al with a complementary dataset".

We added the suggested sentence to the manuscript to confirm the parallel between our study and Baranizadeh et al. 2014 to line (393): *Our work confirms, with a complementary dataset, the conclusions of Baranizadeh et al. (2014) that NPF events and non-events are typically associated with clear-sky and cloudy conditions, respectively.*

4. The paper also aims to “find out the connection between nucleating precursor vapours and new particle formation rates”. The authors should re-think this part of the manuscript. The analysis has the potential to provide interesting conclusions, but currently it is not well connected to the rest of the paper and the approach of the authors does not match the stated aim. The sentence I quote here is misleading because the connection is assumed by the manuscript, not “found”: the new particle formation rates presented in the paper are not calculated from the rate of change of particle concentration, but from a parameterisation of the nucleating precursor vapour proxy concentrations. This is not a bad approach but just needs to be described more carefully: the comparison of the probability of a new particle formation event to the parameterized nucleation rate is still a useful exercise.

5.

We modified the aim mentioned by the referee into the following form:

iii) Explore the connections between new particle formation rates calculated from precursor vapor proxies and the occurrence of NPF events.

6. To connect this to the rest of the paper, the authors could consider presenting this study as a comparison of the effectiveness of their condensation sink based criterion and their nucleation rate parameterisation at determining whether or not a nucleation event will occur on a given day. Then the conclusion might indicate explicitly that the parameterisation is a poor criterion for NPF compared to the condensation sink-temperature criterion (except perhaps in winter, from Figure 10?). Since parameterisations of this form might be considered reasonable starting points to determine whether or not NPF should occur (naively, a high parameterised rate ought to imply a nucleation event is likely), this would seem to be an interesting message. While Figure 10 is helpful in providing this message, further evidence could be obtained by re-plotting some of the data so that the criteria can be compared more directly: Figures 5a and 9a can be compared, but it would be better if the combined criterion including temperature were plotted on the y axis of a new version of Fig. 5a, since this should further improve the separation.

According to the suggestion of both reviewers and to clarify the message of Figure 10, we re-plot figure 10 into a diurnal cycle showing the median CS and the parameterized formation rate. The replacement aids the reader in visualizing the influence of the CS on $J_{3,C}$ as well as the negative correlation between the two. The plot will also improve and connect the parts of the paper together as the reviewer implied. Accordingly, we modify the related text in the manuscript to the following (Line 342):

On NPF event days, the median approximated formation rate of 3 nm particles had its maximum value at about midday and was significantly higher than on non-events days (Figures 9b and 10). A clear negative relation could be seen between the median seasonal diurnal cycles of CS and $J_{3,C}$ on NPF event days (specifically during spring daytime) (Figure 10). This kind of relation was not observed during non-event days when these two quantities seemed to be independent of each other (Figure 10). In summer, the median value of $J_{3,C}$ was roughly similar between NPF events and non-events, whereas the median value of CS was almost ten times higher during the non-event days compared with event days. The high values of $J_{3,C}$ for the non-event days in summer, despite the high CS values, seem to suggest that some other factor limits the actual NPF rate. One option is that the freshly formed clusters are rapidly evaporated due to higher ambient temperatures (see Fig. 5b). This will be discussed in more detail in the following section.

7. The careful statistical summaries presented in this manuscript do convince the reader that the underlying dataset is valuable. The large size allows statistically significant results to be extracted. A csv table (or similar) containing the full dataset, or at a minimum a list of dates studied over the 20 years with, on each day, the condensation sink, temperature, RH, cloudiness parameter, and whether or not the day contained a nucleation event, should be included in supplementary materials. While much of this information is already available, via the smartSMEAR website for example, a carefully compiled dataset specific to this paper would still be very useful. It would allow, for example, modellers comparing event frequency in models and observations to split up the dataset into individual years and compare model to measurements selected from the overall dataset to match their model simulations. A brief explanation of where subsets of the data have been published before should accompany the data file.

As the reviewer mentioned, the data used for our analysis can be downloaded from smartSMEAR. Because compiling 20 years of data results in a massive file, we do not think that it is necessary. However, the authors are happy to collaborate and send the needed data to modelers to improve or add valuable data to the literature.

II. Specific comments

Summary: the sentence “This study serves as basis for scientists aiming at improving their understanding towards new particle formation” should be rephrased to improve the written English, for example “This study serves as a basis for scientists aiming to improve their understanding of new particle formation.”

1. **Abstract:** “utilizing”->”building on”.

We replaced the word utilizing by building on.

2. “In this comparison we considered, for example, the effects of calculated particle formation rates, condensation sink, trace gas concentrations and various meteorological quantities.” -> considered the effect on what?

We reformulated the sentence according to the reviewer’s suggestion in line 20 by adding the following continuation of the sentence: *in discriminating NPF events from non-events*.

3. “The formation rate of 1.5 nm particles was calculated by using proxies for gaseous sulfuric acid and oxidized products of low volatile organic compounds”-> add “and a nucleation rate parameterization” after “compounds”.

We added: “*and a nucleation rate parameterization factor*” to line 22.

4. “As expected, our results indicate an increase in the frequency of NPF events under clear-sky conditions.”-> “increase under clear-sky conditions compared to cloudy conditions”.

We added the suggested to the sentence “*in comparison to cloudy ones*” to line 23.

5. “The calculated formation rate of 3 nm particles showed a notable difference between the NPF event and non-event days during clear-sky conditions, especially in winter and spring”-> so in cloudy conditions do you get high NPF rates but no events? Please be more explicit here.

The objective of the paper is to select the clear-sky days and compare the events and nonevents within this dataset and we only discuss the clear-sky days in this article. As this is implicit based on the previous sentences, we removed the “during clear-sky conditions” from the sentence in order not to cause confusion such as for the

referee. The sentence quoted by the reviewer above means that within the selected clear-sky dataset, the formation rate between events and non-events is different. However, for the interest of the reviewer, we present below a table of statistical analysis of formation rates at 1.5nm between clear-sky ($P>0.7$) and cloudy ($P<0.3$) events and non-events.

$J_{1.5}$ ($\text{cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$)	5 th percentile	25 th percentile	Median	75 th percentile	95 th percentile
Clear-sky events	0.10	0.56	1.37	2.89	8.76
Clear-sky non-events	0.03	0.28	0.77	1.82	5.72
Cloudy events	0.01	0.21	0.72	1.93	7.50
Cloudy nonevents	0.01	0.06	0.17	0.46	2.00

Results appear as expected as the $J_{1.5}$ is calculated directly from the concentrations of sulfuric acid and OxOrg (equation 5) which are both produced photochemically. Thus, it is, as shown, expected that the parametrized formation rate is higher in clear-sky conditions than cloudy ones, in general. The pattern is the same for the J_3 . However, in both cases, particle formation rate is higher on event days than non-events if we take either clear-sky or cloudy conditions, separately.

6. Line 59: “That study” -> which of the three cited?

The sentence “That study” was replaced with: “They” for clarity. The Baranizadeh et al. are the only authors being actively addressed in the previous sentence.

7. Line 88: The title of section 2.1.1 should be amended to make it clear that it is this section which explains how events are categorised, and this section should be extended with a very brief summary of how Dal Maso et al decide whether a day is an event, non-event or undefined day.

The title of section 2.1.1 is modified to: “*New Particle Formation Events Classification*”.

The following is added to this section: “*The latter uses a decision criterion based on the presence of particles < 25 nm in diameter and their consequent growth to Aitken mode. Event days are days on which sub 25 nm particle formation and growth are observed. Non-event days are days on which neither modes are present. Undefined days are the days which do not fit either criterion.*”

8. Line 127: At least four possible MT proxies are presented in Kontkanen et al. Which one did you use? Is it the recommended proxy MTproxy1,doy? Please specify.

We added the missing information to the manuscript.

9. Line 140-147: this section needs more detail on the data analysed and the characteristics of NPF in Hyttiala. Table 1 caption implies all of the data analysed are from the months of March to May, but this seems not to be true. However, it is clear that the instruments would not be running every single day between 1 January 1996 and 31 December 2015. While Figure 2 is helpful here, it also needs some additional explanation and referencing early in the text. The brief statements about the seasonal cycle at lines 227-232 are confusing without this additional context.

While the analysis included in the manuscript is comprehensive and includes data between 1996 and 2015, some of the figures/tables include only part of the data. For instance, as the reviewer pointed out that Table 1 relates only to the spring time correlation. The table includes only spring time as there are the months with the highest

frequency of events. Including all months in one correlation calculation would not give reasonable results. The number of classified clear-sky data points are included in Figure 2.

10. Line 160: Somewhere here it would be good to state why you calculate J₃, why not just use J_{1.5}?

In previous studies which did not consider clear-sky conditions, it has been observed that there is a clear difference in J₃ between event and non-event days while J_{1.5} is more similar (Kulmala et al. 2013). Furthermore, we have more direct J₃ measurements to which we can compare the calculated values. Classification of events around the world are based on DMPS data at 3 nm and above, rather than on data below 3 nm diameter.

Line 320 now reads: *“Since previous studies have shown that there is a clear difference in J₃ between the event and non-event days, and much less difference in J_{1.5} (Kulmala et al. 2013), we decided to focus on J₃ in our event to non-event discrimination.”*

11. Line 174: Please summarise very briefly the improvement made by Kontkanen (2016).

The main improvements in OxOrg proxy by Kontkanen et al. (2016) compared to the previous version (Lappalainen et al., 2009) of the proxy are: 1) Monoterpene concentrations measured during the whole day were used for the proxy. 2) The mixing within the boundary layer, diluting monoterpene concentration, was considered. (3) The oxidation of monoterpenes by nitrate radical (NO₃) was included.

The explanation of the improvements by Kontkanen et al. 2016 are discussed in the method’s section 2.1.4 lines 122-127.

12. Line 197: It would be helpful to state the number of undefined days here, so the reader does not wonder how it can be that 877 days are events, 229 are non-events, and 55% of days are event days.

Based on the reviewer’s suggestion we add the missing number of undefined days to line 198. *“with 877 days classified as NPF events, 560 undefined days and only 229 as non-events.”*

13. Line 205 “days having less” -> “days with fewer”

See following comment.

14. Lines 204-209: Please rewrite or combine with the previous paragraph to ensure the message of this paragraph does not repeat the message of the previous paragraph

We modified the text in lines 204-209 based on the reviewer’s suggestion.

15. Line 213: “In order to find out clear results and conclusions, we will focus on comparison between NPF events and non-events in following sections.”-> this is long-winded, could shorten to “Undefined events are not considered further in the analysis”

We considered the reviewer’s suggestion.

16. Line 230: If the annual trend is important to note, state explicitly what is the annual trend.

As stated in the next sentences, there was no clear trend, but the number of events varied from year to year. We modified the sentence to: *The total number of NPF events varied from year to year between 1996 and 2015.*

17. Line 235: What is the median and percentile of a trajectory? The median compass direction at the point on the trajectory where it arrives at Hyttiala, or the median compass direction of some kind of average over the length of the trajectory? Does “at every half hour” mean for the arrival of the air masses at Hyttiala every half hour or for one trajectory, moving back along it by half an hour at a time?

Based on the reviewer’s comment and for clarity we modified the section explaining the median and percentile of the trajectories. *The medians and similarly the percentiles were calculated by taking the median compass direction at every point on the trajectory (1 hour between every two points), arriving every half an hour at Hyttiälä.*

18. Line 252: “However, the monthly cycle of CS on non-event days had two maxima, one in spring and another one in autumn” - what is the reader meant to conclude from this sentence?

We added a continuation to the sentence in line 252 to ensure clarity: *However, the monthly cycle of CS during non-event days had two maxima, one in spring and another one in autumn, which might suggest that during these seasons, high values of CS prevented NPF to occur during those particular days.*

19. Line 257: “The temperature at which clear-sky NPF events occurred was different for each month” - > The following sentences are not really ‘examples’ of this sentence. I would delete this.

We endorse the reviewer’s suggestion.

20. Line 266: “even though it might also be attributed to the presumable increase” -> but it might also be attributed to the increase”

We did the change.

21. Line 279-281: this sentence needs a verb outside the “while” clause

See the following comment.

22. Line 281: Increased RH leads to increased production of H₂SO₄. Additionally, even with constant H₂SO₄ concentrations, nucleation rates increase with RH in flow tube or chamber studies (e.g. Duplissy et al, JGR 2015) and are expected to from theory (Merikanto et al, JGR 2015, Vehkamäki et al 2002). However, it is indeed clear from Fig 5c that RH is negatively correlated with nucleation. This could be due to any number of reasons, but it seems odd to point out the Boy & Kulmala study on RH limiting VOC ozonolysis without discussing the far more robust and well-established evidence from atmospheric chemistry that RH should promote nucleation of sulphuric acid.

Although increased RH leads to enhanced production of H₂SO₄ even with constant H₂SO₄ concentrations, nucleation rates increase with RH in flow tube or chamber studies (e.g. Duplissy and Flagan, 2016) and are expected to from theory (Merikanto et al., 2016; Vehkamäki et al., 2002). Our results show that RH is negatively correlated with nucleation, mainly because pure H₂SO₄ nucleation is not expected in Hyytiälä. However, in correspondence to the reviewer’s suggestions we add more details to the paragraph referring to the effect of RH on NPF:

Previous studies in Hyytiälä have found that events are accompanied with lower RH values in comparison to non-events (Hamed et al., 2011). Other studies have proposed that increased RH limits some VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) ozonolysis reactions, preventing the formation of some condensable vapors necessary for nucleation (Boy and Kulmala, 2002). This might partially explain the observed anti-correlation between RH and particle formation rates. Therefore, it seems plausible that RH affects NPF via atmospheric chemistry rather than via changing the sink term for condensing vapors and small clusters. Additionally, we found clear differences in how trace gas concentrations were associated with RH between the NPF event and non-event days (Table 1). For instance, O₃ showed a strong negative correlation with RH during events and non-events. However, during non-event days, a positive correlation appears between RH and each of CO, SO₂ and NO_x while the correlation between those seems to be absent during event days. Our results show that air masses coming from central Europe and passing over the Baltic Sea tend to have higher values of RH.

23. Line 303: Specify that the OxOrg proxy concentration depends on temperature via the MT proxy in Kontkanen et al. Also see previous comment concerning this proxy.

A brief summary of the derivation of the OxOrg proxy concentration is present on lines 122 – 127.

24. Line 323: The comparison between J1.5 and J3 is interesting but should be made more explicit – how much later is the peaking time of J3 than J1.5? Are Figures 8b and 9b the same, or are there differences? Would you expect differences, based on how long it takes particles to grow from 1.5 to 3nm in general?

Differences could arise also if the growth from 1.5-3nm is the critical step for NPF, rather than the initial clustering forming 1.5nm particles, as is suggested by some studies (Kulmala et al., 2013). During clear-sky conditions, Table below summarizes the time delays until 3 nm particles are formed. Time delay is calculated as d_{dp}/GR . The peak times varies thus based on the GR and differs on each day. We modify the text in the manuscript (Line 329) to include the discussion related to the delay. Figure 9 is also replaced with the corrected one which includes the delay.

Time Delay	Median
Events	0.6 h
Non-events	0.4 h

‘On event days, in comparison to springtime J_{1.5,c} which peaked at around 10:45 (Figure 8b), J_{3,c} peaked typically about half-an hour later. This time delay indicates how long it takes for the particles grow from 1.5 nm to 3 nm. This growth is a critical step of NPF (Kulmala et al. 2013), and depends on concentrations of available vapour precursors.’

25. Line 331 It is stated that figure 10 represents “median diurnal cycles”. The description of what this actually means is currently a bit hard to follow, and it needs to be repeated in the figure caption. If I understand correctly, the median CS is calculated for each half hour, and plotted against the corresponding median J3 value. Perhaps it would be clearer to describe the plot by saying “the J3 and CS data were divided into 30 groups according to the time of day at which the data were recorded, and the median J3 and CS values for each group were calculated. The first group of data were recorded between 5am and 5.30am, the next from 5.30am to 6am, and so on until 8pm local time” (with adjustments for the precise times/numbers of groups). The figure would also be clearer if the scales of the axes were better optimised so that the data extend closer to the extremes of the axis ranges.

Figure 10 was modified into a clearer version. See comment 4 in the General comments.

26. Line 342. From Figure 10, it is interesting that in summer, autumn and winter the highest J3 on non-event days is almost as high as on event days, and one would therefore expect the J1.5 to be very similar to the J1.5 on event days. This is in sharp contrast to the large differences between event and non-event days shown in Figure 9b for spring. For autumn, winter and summer, figure 10 would imply that the J rate by itself is a poor predictor for whether or not an event will occur. This is surely a useful message for your paper: it could be used to emphasise the importance of your new discriminating variable, based on condensation sink, which from Figure 10 clearly should perform better than the nucleation rate, which naively sounds like a more obvious variable to determine whether or not a nucleation event is occurring.

Figure 10 is modified into a clearer version as well as the text accompanying it. See comment 4 in the General comments.

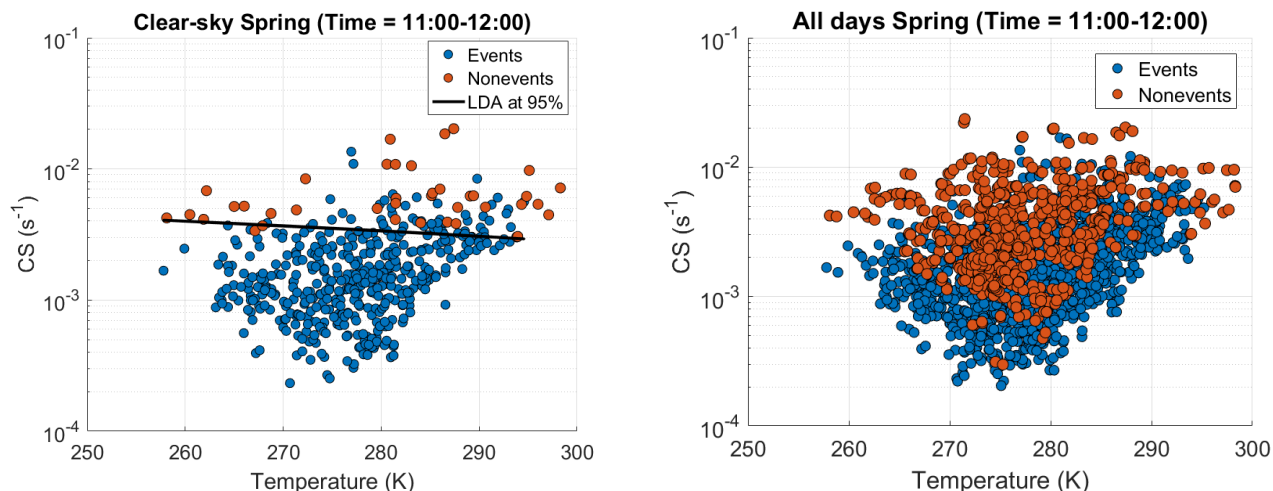
27. Figure 2: In addition to the helpful rows of numbers presented below the box plot, it would be helpful to state the number of event and non-event days with $P > 0.7$ in two additional rows.

Based on the suggestion, we added the corresponding data to Figure 2 and modified the figure caption.

28. Figure 12: why does the criterion for NPF you have developed perform badly in summer, autumn and winter? It would be possible to determine quantitatively the benefit of the clear-sky classification by applying the NPF criterion in the clear-sky case and also without first separating clear sky events from non-events. Please state the effectiveness of the criterion in the case where you do not distinguish clear-sky and cloudy events, in order to prove the usefulness of the clear-sky distinction by showing that the NPF criterion is less effective without it.

The differences between meteorological parameters is clearly lower in all other seasons in comparison to spring, which explains the limitation of our criterion. Although precursor vapors have high concentrations in summer, however, the concentrations are similar between event and non-event days which makes it hard to separate days into events and non-events based on vapor concentrations. We plotted below figure 12 (left) accompanied by a similar figure where the clear-sky classification had not been taken into account. In total, the number of total events and non-events were 1458 and 2118, respectively, while in clear-sky conditions the numbers were 877 and 229, respectively. Accordingly, and as shown in the plot below, if no clear-sky selection is done, it is

basically almost impossible to separate the events from the non-events. While in clear-sky conditions, it was possible to very well separate events from the non-events in spring, which makes clear-sky distinction useful.



29. References: should cite Kuang et al, ACP 2010, “An improved criterion for new particle formation in diverse atmospheric environments” somewhere

Kuang et al. (2010) developed a criterion for NPF probability based on a dimensionless parameter (ratio of particle loss rate to growth rate), which determines when the newly formed clusters are likely to grow to detectable sizes. They conclude this criterion to work in diverse environments, however, they did not explore the dependency of their parameter on atmospheric conditions. Line 383 now reads “Although previous studies have developed criteria for NPF probability which could work in diverse environments (Kuang et al., 2010), they did not explore the dependency of their criterion on atmospheric conditions.”

30. Table 1: +/-0.45 does not really indicate “high correlation”: for this description to be justified I think you need +/-0.7 at least! Also, since the tables are symmetric about the diagonal, please remove the lower triangle (or replace with “-”) so the reader does not have to check the upper and lower triangles are the same.

We changed the coloring criteria in Table 1 so that only values higher than 0.7 are indicated as high.

31. Figures 1/2: what is the “relevant statistical limit”?

The default box plots refer to 99.3% statistical limit. For clarity the figure caption accompanying all boxplots is modified to: *The lines extending from the central box represent 1.5 x interquartile range which includes 99.3% of the data inclusive. Data outside this statistical limit are considered outliers and are marked with red crosses.*

32. Figure 3 caption: “5.4%, (add comma) making the classification biased.” Please state more explicitly what you mean here: do you have only global radiation data for 5.4% of the days in 1998?

We did the change.

References

- Boy, M., and Kulmala, M.: Nucleation events in the continental boundary layer: Influence of physical and meteorological parameters, *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics*, 2, 1-16, 2002.
- Duplissy, J., and Flagan, R.: Effect of ions on sulfuric acid-water binary particle formation: 2. Experimental data and comparison, *Journal of Geophysical Research. Atmospheres*, 121, 1752-1775, 2016.
- Hamed, A., Korhonen, H., Sihto, S. L., Joutsensaari, J., Järvinen, H., Petäjä, T., Arnold, F., Nieminen, T., Kulmala, M., and Smith, J. N.: The role of relative humidity in continental new particle formation, *Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres*, 116, 2011.
- Hyvönen, S., Junninen, H., Laakso, L., Maso, M. D., Grönholm, T., Bonn, B., Keronen, P., Aalto, P., Hiltunen, V., and Pohja, T.: A look at aerosol formation using data mining techniques, *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics*, 5, 3345-3356, 2005.
- Kuang, C., Riipinen, I., Sihto, S.-L., Kulmala, M., McCormick, A., and McMurry, P.: An improved criterion for new particle formation in diverse atmospheric environments, *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics*, 10, 8469-8480, 2010.
- Kulmala, M., Kontkanen, J., Junninen, H., Lehtipalo, K., Manninen, H. E., Nieminen, T., Petäjä, T., Sipilä, M., Schobesberger, S., and Rantala, P.: Direct observations of atmospheric aerosol nucleation, *Science*, 339, 943-946, 2013.
- Lappalainen, H., Sevanto, S., Bäck, J., Ruuskanen, T., Kolari, P., Taipale, R., Rinne, J., Kulmala, M., and Hari, P.: Day-time concentrations of biogenic volatile organic compounds in a boreal forest canopy and their relation to environmental and biological factors, *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics*, 9, 5447-5459, 2009.
- Merikanto, J., Duplissy, J., Määttä, A., Henschel, H., Donahue, N. M., Brus, D., Schobesberger, S., Kulmala, M., and Vehkamäki, H.: Effect of ions on sulfuric acid-water binary particle formation: 1. Theory for kinetic- and nucleation-type particle formation and atmospheric implications, *J. Geophys. Res. Atmos*, 121, 1736-1751, 2016.
- Vehkamäki, H., Kulmala, M., Napari, I., Lehtinen, K. E., Timmreck, C., Noppel, M., and Laaksonen, A.: An improved parameterization for sulfuric acid–water nucleation rates for tropospheric and stratospheric conditions, *Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres*, 107, 2002.