

Author responses to Reviewer 1's Comments

Q: One pressing issue is that results shown in the paper seems inconsistent. The paper first showed that the inclusion of SVOCs leads to a lower hygroscopicity (κ), which implies that neglecting SVOCs would overestimate κ , and thus CCN number as well. However, the paper later showed the effective κ is higher when including SVOCs. This means that neglecting SVOCs would underestimate κ , and also CCN number. These two conclusions seems contrast each other. Can the authors clarify this?

A: The inclusion of SVOCs increases the size of particles as well as changing the chemical composition and so the hygroscopicity has a more complicated relationship to CCN concentration as would be the case for involatile particles. Ignoring composition, larger particles activate at lower supersaturations and one may expect more CCN as a result of the increased size of particles with the SVOCs. The hygroscopicity, however, is also inversely proportional to the critical diameter cubed (equation 1). Hence, if the particles that activate are larger, the resulting hygroscopicity is smaller.

Q: Page 3, last paragraph. The introduction of the three single-parameter measures of the hygroscopicity seems abrupt, causing confusion without further explanations. I suggest placing this introduction in the beginning of section 4: methodology including the effects of SVOCs

A: A paragraph has been moved to the SVOC methodology section, as suggested.

Q: Before moving to the main body of paper, please briefly lay out the structure of the following content, telling readers what they would expect in the coming paper.

A: This has been added at the start of the final paragraph of the introduction.

Q: Reorganize the main body of the paper. The current section form starts from methodology, then to results, and jump back to methodology and results, which I think is not fluent. Two ways to fix it. 1) put all methodology parts into one section, followed by the results section; 2) Combine the section 2 and section 3 into one part as for involatile aerosol with section 2 and 3 as sub-sections, and combine the section 4 and 5 into the other part as for including the effects of SVOCs.

A: The sections on the involatile aerosol (method and results) was presented first to allow the reader to understand the Monte-Carlo methodology when applied to the simpler and familiar definition of hygroscopicity. In addition, experimental results are available for comparison in this case. We then go on to describe the addition of the SVOCs and discuss that this more complicated due to the variation in size and chemical composition with RH. There are no experimental results for comparison and so this builds on the current theory and understanding.

Q: Page 2, line 28. How about the recent IPCC results (AR5)?

A: Citation has been updated to Myhre et al. (2013)

Q: Page 3, line 69-72. What did the author mean by ‘dynamic condensation’? That is inconsistent with ‘equilibrium absorptive partitioning’ stated in the beginning of this sentence.

A: In dynamic parcel model simulations by Connolly et al. (2014), it was found that the SVOCs approximately reached equilibrium between the vapour and total condensed phase by cloud base. The condensed mass on each individual particle within the polydisperse aerosol, however, was not in equilibrium. Consequently, the total condensed mass was calculated using equilibrium absorptive partitioning theory but this mass is distributed between the different particle sizes within a lognormal mode by changing the median diameter and geometric standard deviation. This change in lognormal parameters is used to “**simulate** the condensed phase of SVOCs after undergoing dynamic condensation”.

Q: Page 3, line 91. According to the equilibrium absorptive partitioning theory, the primary factors controlling the gas/particle partitioning are the vapor pressure of SVOCs, atmospheric temperature, and the total mass of existing particles, without RH, although RH is relative to the temperature. Can the authors explain more why they particularly chose RH?

A: We have used the equilibrium absorptive partitioning model of Barley et al. (2006) that includes condensed water in the mass of the particle phase. The mass of water is controlled by the RH. Near 100% RH the mass of water in the particle phase increases dramatically and this induces significant condensation of SVOCs.

Q: Page 4, line 109-111. This sentence seems odd to me. “Many source of uncertainties” in the first part is logically disconnected to the second part of this sentence.

A: The sentence is trying to say that we’re encapsulating the many sources of uncertainty into a single parameter with associated uncertainty. This has been reworded to make it clearer.

Q: Page 5, line 166. A little confusion here. How did the authors obtain the “12%” value?

A: The 12% resulted from the method of randomising the size distribution described in the Appendix A (now in the supplement). In the interest of reducing the length of the paper, as requested by both reviewers, this paragraph has been removed

Q: Page 8, Line 210. “Table 1”. Did the authors mean Table 3?

A: Yes, this has been corrected in the text.

Q: Page 11, Line 268. Any specific reason that 50% of RH was chosen for the integration of aerosol size distribution? Not 60%? Any effect on the derived hygroscopicity if using different RH?

A: Air is often dried to 50% RH before measuring the aerosol size distribution. Figure 7 (Now Figure S7 in the Supplement) shows the effects of

using higher RH values with little difference in the hygroscopicity below 95% RH.

Q: Page 11, line 287. Why does it have to be between 0.1 and 0.5?

A: These are typical ranges measured for organic fraction of aerosol.

Q: Page 12, line 291. Can the authors remind the readers what the parameterization of Connolly et al. (2014) is? Since it is first introduced in the Introduction Section, which is quite far away from here.

A: It is not that easy to briefly describe the parameterisation and a major criticism of the paper was its length. Adequate references to the original parameterisation are included.

Q: Page 13, line 313-315. The smaller uncertainty for k_{SVOC} than k_{nv} is quite surprising, because the uncertainty for k_{SVOC} includes the uncertainty associated with not only the non-volatile particles but also SVOCs volatilities and masteries, while the uncertainty for k_{nv} reflects only the non-volatile particles related uncertainty. Do the authors know why?

A: The 10% is for levoglucosan while the other 3 compounds the difference is more like 5%, the text has been changed to reflect this.

For ammonium sulphate, sodium chloride and sulphuric acid the hygroscopicity is large and small changes in the size of the particles can make a big difference to the number of CCN. The organics, however, have a hygroscopicity of between 0.18 and 0.27 (based on Table 5), which is “low” regardless of what value it actually takes in this range. Overall, the combination of the involatile constituents and the organic compounds will result in relatively low hygroscopic particles regardless of the particular properties of the organics. Furthermore, the uncertainty in organic mass fraction will have a large effect on the chemical composition of the particles, however, this is mitigated by the changes in sizes of the particles due to the SVOCs.

Q: Page 14, line 325. “50% RH” is different from “0%RH” stated on line 323. Which one is right?

A: “0%” is a typo and has been corrected to 50%

Q: Page 16, line 368. Shouldn't it be wet aerosol size distribution, because at 70% RH, for example, the aerosol can absorb water?

A: The equation for the hygroscopicity, (1), depends on the dry particle size, as defined in Petters and Kreidenweis (2007). In the case with SVOCs, the dry size neglects the condensed water but includes the associated condensed SVOCs at the particular RH.

Q: Figure 7. What are the red + in the top of figure?

A: These are the data point that MATLAB deems outliers and are the points that are more than 1.5 times the interquartile range below and above the 25th and 75th percentiles, respectively.

Q: Figure 8. Why the line of 100% shows a different trend than other lines at high logC bins?

A: The partitioning of the SVOCs into the condensed phase depends on the condensed water. At higher RH there is more condensed water and therefore more SVOCs in the condensed phase. There is significantly more water condensed at 100% RH than below 95% RH and so the total condensed mass of SVOCs will be significantly higher. By 95% humidity, the organics in the lower 8 volatility bins have all partitioned into the particle phase and so the additional condensed SVOC mass at 100% RH must come from the higher 2 volatility bins.

Q: Section 6. As a large portion of the paper concentrates on the uncertainty of hygroscopicity associated with involatile aerosol size distribution and SVOCs mass and chemical compositions, I think the authors should add the findings about this uncertainty part, which can also echo the title of the paper.

A: The focus of this paper is on the effect of SVOCs. The involatile section (Section 2) is included to allow some comparison with existing experimental data that, in comparison to when SVOCs are included, is more straightforward to measure. We are therefore presenting a method of including SVOCs that does not have the pit-falls associated with measuring SVOCs. Additionally, reviewer 2 felt there was already too much focus on the involatile case. (Point 1)

Q: Section 6. The results are derived from the assumption that SOA is the result of the equilibrium absorptive partitioning of SVOCs, but some experimental results indicate that aerosol particles containing SOA can exist in highly viscous states (e.g., Vaden et al., 2011 PNAS), breaking the equilibrium partitioning. Would the viscous states of particles change the results of this paper?

A: This is true but is an active area of research. Some numerical models investigating the effect of diffusion within aerosol particles (Zobrist et al., 2011; Smith et al., 2003) indicate that glassy particles can transition into a liquid phase above about 50% relative humidity. As this paper focuses on relative humidities above 50% the effect of viscosity may not be important.

Author responses to Reviewer 2's Comments

1) "As noted above, the concept of varying input parameters over likely ranges and determining the sensitivity of the resultant products (S_{max} , D_{min} , κ) to this is not foreign to most readers, so a terse explanation and tabulation of the ranges used would probably suffice. I would particularly recommend minimizing the discussion surrounding the core model (Sec. 3), where few new physical insights were produced."

A: The length of the paper has been reduced and hopefully addresses this point.

2) *"I would particularly recommend minimizing the discussion surrounding the core model (Sec. 3), where few new physical insights were produced"*

A: We disagree that "few new physical insights were produced). The purpose of the involatile aerosol section is to try to demonstrate that the uncertainty in our model is similar to that in experiments with a view to justifying the suitability of our model to represent real-world problems. This is surely important for an model. Additionally, it is found that the uncertainty in kappa when SVOCs are included is smaller than that of the involatile aerosol. This is, perhaps, an unexpected observation as noted by Reviewer 1 (*"Page 13, line 313-315"*) and can only be drawn if the involatile aerosol is studied in isolation. Hopefully the more concise wording of this section in response to the reviewers' comments has addressed this issue.

3) *there is too much discussion of the intermediate test cases (e.g. KnoCC)*

A: Large-scale models that include VOCs often only consider the condensed phase of the organics under subsaturated conditions (REF). These models effectively work with the KnoCC parameter, which only takes into account the condensed phase of organics at subsaturated conditions. KnoCC is not, therefore, an intermediate step but an important parameter in the discussion of how well current models may be representing the effect of SVOCs on cloud. An additional paragraph has been added to the introduction (lines 94-104) that discusses challenges and methods involved in different experimental and modelling methods.

3a) *The presentation of the levoglucosan results should be strongly caveated, since the results are apparently contradictory to the general thrust of the paper.*

A: We do not believe the results for levoglucosan are contradictory. The effect of the SVOCs is clearly dependent on the composition of the involatile aerosol and the results for levoglucosan show this: producing a higher kappa with SVOCs than without while the other 3 compounds have lower kappa with SVOCs than without.

Q: *Clearly this is an extreme case where a very hygroscopic core is exposed to a relatively less hygroscopic SVOC and the final product is still an apparently easy to activate particle.*

A: We, also, do not believe that levoglucosan is an extreme case; it is quite a common compound to use in models and its hygroscopicity is not outside of the range of typical kappa values that have been measured for other compounds (See Petters and Kreidenweis, 2007). It is also fairly hydrophobic, not "very hygroscopic", we assume this is just a typo.

4) *It appears to me that the authors recommend simply "adjusting" the hygroscopicity of well-characterized particle types upward to account for the SVOC/water co-condensation*

A: We are suggesting that the hygroscopicity can be adjusted to account for the co-condensation of SVOCs to produce similar numbers of CCN. We are not, however, suggesting that this be done *"without regard for the amount or nature of the SVOC that the aerosols are likely to have been exposed to"*.

The results in this paper are only to illustrate typical trends in the hygroscopicity that might be expected and we do not suggest that the hygroscopicity of sodium chloride, for example, be replaced with a value of 2.1. Our method could be repeated with whatever SVOC properties and abundance is used in a particular model. Specifically, our method would be useful for models such as GLOMAP (Mann et al., 2010) that have no capacity to treat SVOCs. To include their effects would involve running multiple large-scale models to redefine the parameters used in GLOMAP. Our method, in contrast, could be carried out off-line and the modified hygroscopicities used in the existing GLOMAP model instead.

Mann, G.W. et al., 2010. Description and evaluation of GLOMAP-mode: a modal global aerosol microphysics model for the UKCA composition-climate model. *Geoscientific Model Development*, 3(2), pp.519–551. Available at: <http://www.geosci-model-dev.net/3/519/2010/>.

Uncertainty in aerosol hygroscopicity resulting from semi-volatile organic compounds

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Abstract. We present a novel method of exploring the effect of uncertainties in aerosol properties on cloud droplet number using existing cloud droplet activation parameterisations. Aerosol properties of a single involatile particle mode are randomly sampled within an uncertainty range and resulting maximum supersaturations and critical diameters calculated using the cloud droplet activation scheme. Hygroscopicity parameters are subsequently derived and the values of the mean and uncertainty are found to be comparable to experimental observations. A recently proposed cloud droplet activation scheme that includes the effects of co-condensation of semi-volatile organic compounds onto a single lognormal mode of involatile particles is also considered. In addition to the uncertainties associated with the involatile particles, concentrations, volatility distributions and chemical composition of the semi-volatile organic compounds are randomly sampled and hygroscopicity parameters are derived using the cloud droplet activation scheme. The inclusion of semi-volatile organic compounds is found to have a significant effect on the hygroscopicity and contributes a large uncertainty. For non-volatile particles that are effective cloud condensation nuclei, the co-condensation of semi-volatile organic compounds reduces their actual hygroscopicity by approximately 25%. A new concept of an effective hygroscopicity parameter is introduced that can computationally efficiently simulate the effect of semi-volatile organic compounds on cloud droplet number concentration without direct modelling of the organic compounds. These effective hygroscopicities can be as much as a factor of two higher than those of the non-volatile particles onto which the volatile organic compounds condense.

1 Introduction

The Earth's weather and climate are both strongly influenced by clouds (Morgan et al., 2010; Ohring and Clapp, 1980). Cloud droplet number concentration and size can have a significant effect on cloud albedo by changing the amount of reflected shortwave radiation and absorbed longwave radiation (Twomey, 1977; McCormick and Ludwig, 1967). In addition, the abundance of cloud droplets and their properties can influence precipitation rate and subsequently cloud lifetime (Stevens and Feingold, 2009; Albrecht, 1989), which itself has a strong interdependency with cloud albedo (Twomey,

1974, 1977). The net global mean radiative forcing is estimated to be reduced by about 0.45 W m^{-2} as a result of aerosol-cloud interactions (Myhre et al., 2013). This figure, however, is subject to a large degree of uncertainty.

30 In general, there is a positive correlation between aerosol number concentration and cloud droplet number concentration (Twomey (1959)), however, the details are much more complex. According to Köhler Theory (Köhler (1936)), the presence of sufficiently large aerosol particles can impede the growth, and subsequent activation, of smaller particles in a polydisperse aerosol by reducing the water available to activate the remaining cloud condensation nuclei (CCN) (Ghan et al. (1998)). Size and composition are significant in establishing how effectively individual aerosol particles will act as CCN (Pruppacher and Klett (1977)). In addition, the effects of other atmospheric constituents, such as surfactants, can be equally as important in determining cloud droplet number as the number concentration of aerosol particles ((Lance et al., 2004; Nenes et al., 2002)).

A dominant factor influencing aerosol composition is the co-condensation of semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) onto CCN (Topping and McFiggans (2012)). Köhler Theory is limited to non-volatile compounds, so does not consider the effects of compounds of ranging volatility in the atmosphere. It has been shown that SVOCs increase the tendency for activation of CCN which consequently affects radiative properties of clouds, hence the necessity to quantify their influence (Topping et al. (2013)).

45 Depending on geographical location, between 5% and 90% of total aerosol mass can be composed of organic material (Andreae and Crutzen, 1997; Zhang et al., 2007; Gray et al., 1986). A portion of this will originate from primary sources but a significant and uncertain amount will be produced by secondary processes, namely, nucleation of new particles and condensation of SVOCs onto existing particles. The former process increases the number concentration of aerosol particles while the latter increases the size, and consequently soluble mass, of existing aerosol particles. The enlarged size and altered chemical composition of the particles has a dominant effect on cloud droplet number (Dusek et al., 2006; Topping et al., 2013) and so uncertainties in the amount and composition of secondary organic aerosol mass translate into large uncertainties in cloud properties.

Multiple parameterisations of cloud droplet activation have been developed (Fountoukis and Nenes, 2005; Abdul-Razzak et al., 1998; Abdul-Razzak and Ghan, 2000; Shipway and Abel, 2010; Ming et al., 2005) and have been effective at estimating CCN concentrations at a range of atmospherically applicable conditions (Ghan et al., 2011; Simpson et al., 2014) whilst being more computationally efficient than a detailed cloud parcel model. Although the work of Fountoukis and Nenes (2005) and Abdul-Razzak et al. (1998) has shown to be representative of physical processes (Ghan et al. (2011)), they lack the consideration of co-condensation of organic vapours.

60 Connolly et al. (2014) extended the parameterisations of Fountoukis and Nenes (2005) and Abdul-Razzak et al. (1998) to incorporate the effects of co-condensation of SVOCs in the presence of a single non-volatile aerosol mode with lognormally distributed particle sizes. This is achieved by

first assuming the SVOCs are in equilibrium between a vapour and condensed phase at the initial
65 temperature, pressure and relative humidity; calculated using a molar based equilibrium absorptive
partitioning theory (Barley et al., 2009). The additional mass from the condensed phase of the or-
ganics is added to the non-volatile constituent and the particle size distribution altered so that the
number concentration and geometric standard deviation are the same as the non-volatile mode but
the median diameter is increased to conserve mass. Equilibrium absorptive partitioning theory at
70 cloud base (99.999%RH) is then used to calculate additional aerosol mass from the organics but
both the median diameter and geometric standard deviation are changed to simulate the condensed
phase of SVOCs after undergoing dynamic condensation during cloud activation. This is carried out
whilst maintaining arithmetic standard deviation and conserving mass. The aerosol size distribution
and material properties at cloud base are then input into the existing cloud droplet activation schemes
75 of Fountoukis and Nenes (2005) and Abdul-Razzak et al. (1998). The Fountoukis and Nenes (2005)
parameterisation was found to most successfully replicate the results from a detailed parcel model
with binned microphysics and is, consequently, the only parameterisation considered in this paper.
This parameterisation was later extended to include multiple non-volatile aerosol modes (Crooks
and Connolly, 2017).

80 Petters and Kreidenweis (2007) present the hygroscopicity, κ , as a method of characterising CCN
activity through relating dry diameter and supersaturation into a single parameter. Typically, for at-
mospheric aerosol the hygroscopicity lies in the range $0.1 < \kappa < 0.9$ with insoluble particles having
a κ of approximately zero and $\kappa > 1$ indicating particles that are highly effective as CCN, such as
Sodium Chloride. The hygroscopicity parameter is capable of quantifying water uptake character-
85 istics for internally mixed particles, and aids in interpreting CCN particles where the composition
is not fully known, by fitting to experimental data. Alternatively, when composition is known, a
volume-averaged mixing rule can be used to determine κ .

In the case of involatile particles, the hygroscopicity depends solely on chemical composition
and is independent of particle size. In environments that contain semi-volatile organic compounds,
90 the hygroscopicity becomes more ambiguous. Due to the condensed mass of semi-volatile organic
compounds depending on relative humidity, aerosol particles have chemical compositions and sizes
that vary with the RH. Consequently, the properties of aerosol particles, including the hygroscopicity,
change drastically as they rise in the atmosphere from subsaturated air into cloud.

In field measurements, atmospheric aerosol is passed through instruments under subsaturated con-
95 ditions in order to measure the size distribution and composition (Taylor et al., 2016) while the num-
ber of CCN is calculated under supersaturated conditions. Including the production, condensation,
evaporation, reaction and oxidation of SVOCs directly in large-scale models is very computa-
tionally expensive and is rarely carried out, especially for more than one compound. For the purposes
of aerosol transport, it is common to apply equilibrium absorptive partitioning theory to calculate
100 the particle phase of volatile compounds (Tsigaridis et al., 2014). Comprehensively including the

effect of SVOCs on cloud droplet activation in large-scale models is yet to be carried out (Ervens, 2015). Although, a number of studies have attempted to parameterise the relation between secondary organic aerosol and cloud liquid water content (Myriokefalitakis et al., 2011; Lin et al., 2014) an effective cloud droplet radius has to be assumed in order to incorporate them into large-scale models.

105 In Section 2.1, we describe the set up of the Monte-Carlo simulations in the simpler involatile aerosol case before making comparisons with analogous experimental results from the literature in Section 2.2. A discussion of the modifications and extensions to the Monte-Carlo scheme to include SVOCs is presented in Section 3.2. In Section 3.3, a method of including co-condensation of SVOCs in large-scale models is proposed.

110 2 Hygroscopicity of involatile aerosol

2.1 Methodology

There are many sources of uncertainties discussed in this paper and, in order to study their effect on cloud droplet formulation, we encapsulate the uncertainty into a single parameter called the hygroscopicity. The hygroscopicity parameter, κ , introduced by Petters and Kreidenweis (2007), which is
115 defined as

$$\kappa = \frac{4A^3}{27D_d^3 \ln^2 S_c}. \quad (1)$$

Here D_d is the diameter of the dry particle that activates at a percentage supersaturation of $s_c = (S_c - 1) \times 100$, where S_c is the saturation ratio. The parameter A is defined as

$$A = \frac{4\tau M_w}{RT\rho_w},$$

120 where τ is the surface tension of water, M_w and ρ_w are the the molecular weight and density of water, and R and T are the universal gas constant and temperature, respectively.

Both the critical diameter and supersaturation are dependent on the chemical composition of the aerosol particles with less hygroscopic particles requiring a larger supersaturation to activate, which also corresponds to a larger critical diameter. Typically, the critical diameter and supersaturation
125 pairs are obtained from experiments (Svenningsson et al., 2006; Dinar et al., 2006; Petters et al., 2006) but this is a costly and time consuming process. In order to calculate the sensitivity of κ to each parameter, a large number of experiments is required. In this paper, a cloud activation parameterisation (Fountoukis and Nenes, 2005) is used to calculate the critical diameter and supersaturation as a function of the aerosol properties. For each set of parameter values, the parameterisation can
130 calculate the critical supersaturation and number of CCN in under a second. Consequently, this approach offers a practical method to perform a large number of simulations to fully explore the dependence of κ on the different model parameters.

In this section we demonstrate how the parameterisations can be used to calculate the uncertainty in κ for common non-volatile compounds before extending the method to include SVOCs in Section

135 3.1. This section demonstrates that the uncertainty in the size distribution that we simulate produces similar uncertainty in κ that are observed in experiments. It also offers a comparison of the uncertainty in κ that result from the inclusion of the SVOCs in Sections 3.1.

Particle sizes are assumed to follow a lognormal size distribution of the form

$$\frac{dN}{d \ln D} = \frac{N}{\sqrt{2\pi \ln \sigma}} \exp \left[- \left(\frac{\ln(D/D_m)}{\sqrt{2 \ln \sigma}} \right)^2 \right], \quad (2)$$

140 where N , D_m and $\ln \sigma$ are the aerosol number concentration, median diameter and geometric standard deviation, respectively. The cloud droplet activation scheme calculates a maximum supersaturation, s_{max} , and a number of CCN, which we denote N_{CCN} . We define the critical diameter, D_d , as the smallest diameter of particle that activates, assuming all larger particles also activate. As such, the critical diameter can be obtained by integrating the size distribution, (2), with respect to D from
145 D_d up to infinity and equating to the number of CCN calculated by the parameterisation. Therefore, D_d satisfies

$$\frac{1}{2} N \operatorname{erfc} \left(- \frac{\ln(D_d/D_m)}{\ln \sigma \sqrt{2}} \right) = N_{CCN}, \quad (3)$$

where erfc is the complementary error function.

In order to encapsulate the uncertainty in the measured size distribution in κ , we first ran a Monte-
150 Carlo simulation that solves the parameterisation with each size distribution parameter sampled from normal distributions with specified mean and uncertainty. The range of aerosol size distributions that this corresponds to is represented by the grey shaded region in the lower plot of Figure 1. In this section we ignore the volatility distribution of SVOCs and the mean dry aerosol size at 50% RH is the mean value of the involatile aerosol. After running the parameterisation, a range of s_{max} and
155 N_{CCN} are obtained; examples of the resulting probability distributions are shown by the bar charts with blue bars in Figure 1. The mean and standard deviation of s_{max} and N_{CCN} are calculated to produce approximate normal probability distributions, shown by the solid black lines. To calculate κ , a random pair of s_{max} and N_{CCN} were selected at random from their probability distributions (solid black lines). The value of N_{CCN} and the mean value of D_m were used to calculate the critical diameter, D_d , through equation (3). This, together with s_{max} , were used to calculate κ using
160 equation (1) by setting $s_c = s_{max}$.

The focus of this paper is on the effect of semi-volatile organic compounds on the hygroscopicity and, consequently, a thorough analysis of the sensitivity of κ to the mean values assigned to the number concentration, median diameter and geometric standard deviation of the non-volatile particle size distribution is not performed. Plots showing the effects for a few select choices of mean size
165 distribution parameters are given in the supplementary material. The mean values and standard deviations that are used in the main body of this paper are given in Table 1. The Monte-Carlo simulations are run at ten different logarithmically-spaced updraft velocities ranging from 0.01 m s^{-1} to 10 m s^{-1} . Each updraft velocity produces a different mean value of S_{max} but the resulting hygroscopicity
170 shows little dependence and for this reason the choice of updraft velocity is arbitrary.

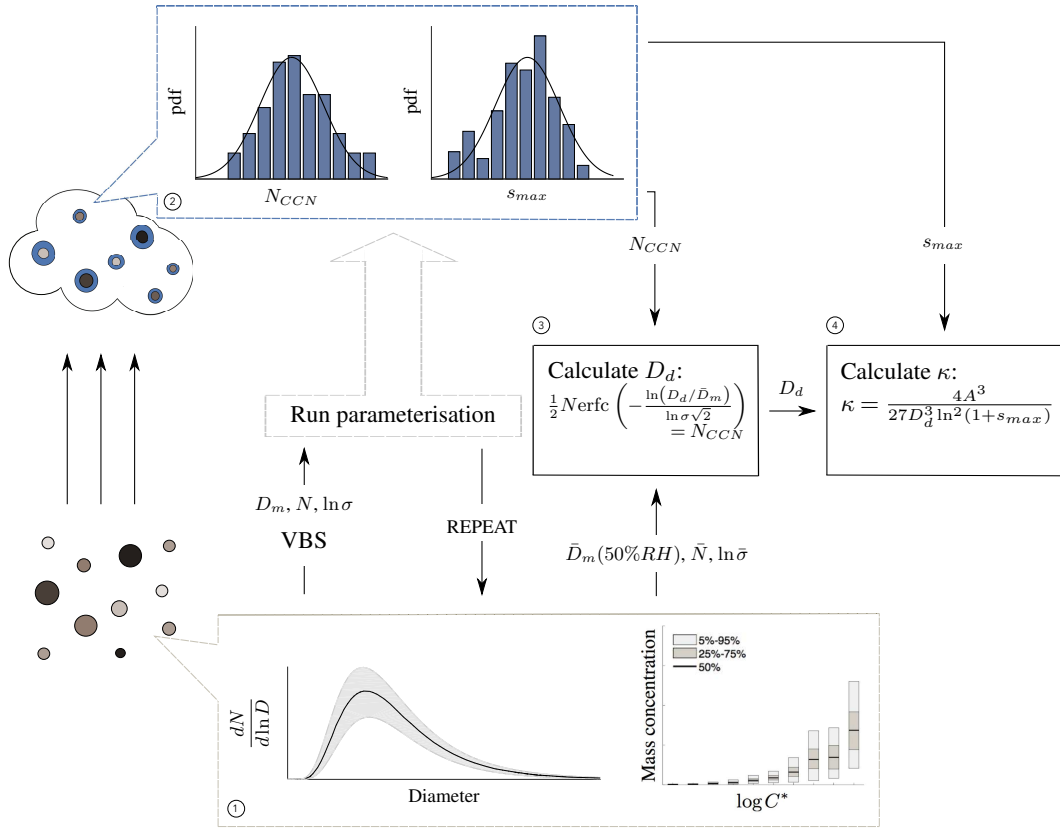


Figure 1. A schematic of the Monte-Carlo method to calculate the hygroscopicity, κ . Mean size distribution and uncertainty range is shown in the left plot of step 1 by the solid black line and grey shaded regions, respectively. The VBS and uncertainty range used in Section 3.1 is shown in the right plot of step 1. Probability distributions of N_{CCN} and s_{max} from the Monte-Carlo simulations are shown by the blue bar charts step 2 and corresponding fitted normal distributions are shown by the overlaid solid black lines. Step 3 combines the mean size distribution of dry aerosol at 50% RH with randomly sampled N_{CCN} to calculate a range of D_d . In step 4, each D_d is used together with a randomly sampled s_{max} to find the range of κ .

Table 1. Mean and standard deviation of the size distribution parameters of the non-volatile particles.

Parameter	mean	standard deviation
N (cm^{-3})	1000	100
D_m (nm)	100	10
$\ln\sigma$	0.5	0.1

To simulate the uncertainty in the solubility and dissociation we randomly sampled the van't Hoff factors from normal distributions with means, standard deviations and maximum and minimum values stated in Table 2. The maxima for ammonium sulphate, sodium chloride and sulphuric acid

are dictated by ideal behaviour, while the maximum for levoglucosan is chosen to avoid erroneously high values.

Table 2. Parameters of the normal distributions from which the van't Hoff factors are sampled; the standard deviations are chosen to be 10% of the mean. Randomly sampled values that lie outside of the range of the minimum and maximum are ignored.

Compound	minimum	mean	maximum	standard deviation
Levoglucosan	0	1	2	0.1
Ammonium Sulphate	0	2.7	3	0.27
Sodium Chloride	0	2	2	0.2
Sulphuric Acid	0	3	3	0.3

2.2 Results for involatile aerosol

Using the methodology described in Section 2.1, we produced a range of κ for four test compounds; levoglucosan, ammonium sulphate, sodium chloride and sulphuric acid. Although our method is more similar to the CCN derived κ , our results are also compared against the values calculated using a growth factor. This is due to the lack of experimental uncertainty for the CCN derived κ . Of our four test compounds, only levoglucosan has CCN derived mean and uncertainty. For comparison, Table 3 shows the mean values and uncertainties from both experimental methods, where available.

Our Monte-Carlo simulation was run for 1000 different particle size distributions, each of which were run at ten different updrafts, evenly distributed in logspace from 0.01 m s^{-1} to 10 m s^{-1} . This produced a range of N_{CCN} and s_{max} for each of the four compounds. Using these values, we were able to calculate a range of critical diameters, D_d , using the method described in Section 2.1. The D_d combined with their corresponding value of s_{max} resulted in a range of κ , using equation (1). We have chosen to use the 16th and 84th quantiles to represent the uncertainty in κ . This allows for non-symmetric uncertainties but is approximately the same as the standard deviation if the κ values are normally distributed.

In Figure 2, the growth factor derived κ values from Table 3 are plotted against our calculated hygroscopicity, which will be referred to as κ_{nv} . The mean values of each compound are displayed by the dots and the horizontal error bars depict the growth factor derived κ_{low} and κ_{up} . The vertical error bars show the 16th and 84th quantiles of the range of κ values from our method and the grey dashed line shows the 1:1 line. The mean CCN derived κ and the mean values from our data are shown by the crosses.

The mean values that our method calculate are in excellent agreement with those given in Table 3. The growth factor derived hygroscopicity for sulphuric acid is noticeably lower than κ_{nv} but the CCN derived hygroscopicity is in much better agreement. The error bars from our Monte-Carlo simulations are comparable to those from the growth factor derived κ . Although no uncertainty is

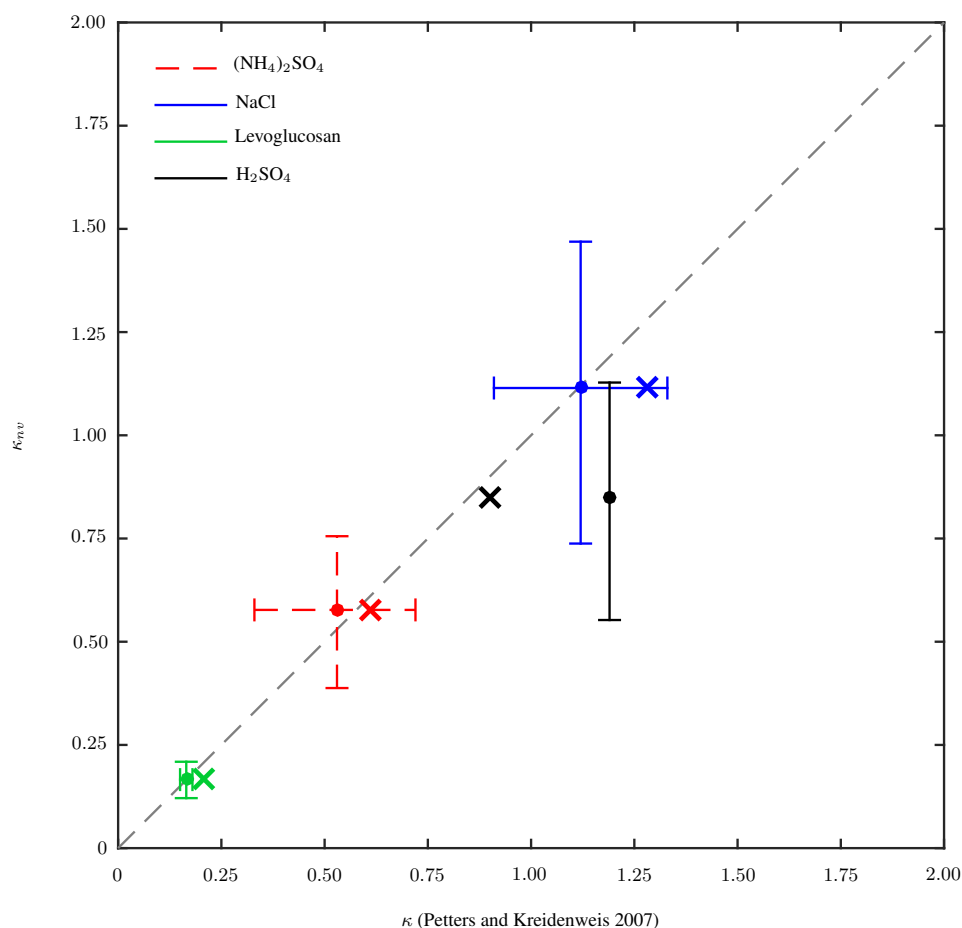


Figure 2. Growth factor derived hygroscopicity, κ , of non-volatile compounds from Petters and Kreidenweis (2007) plotted against the values from our Monte-Carlo approach. Mean values from the CCN derived and growth factor derived experimental methods are shown by the crosses and dots, respectively, with y coordinates showing the mean from our approach. Horizontal error bars show κ_{low} and κ_{up} from the growth factor derived κ given in Table 3, and the vertical error bars show the 16th and 84th quantiles of our derived values. Ammonium sulphate is shown in red with dashed error bars, sodium chloride is shown in blue, levoglucosan is shown by the green and sulphuric acid is shown in black.

available for sulphuric acid, the error bars in κ_{nv} are comparable to those for ammonium sulphate and sodium chloride. In general, our method results in an uncertainty on the order of 20 – 40% for all compounds.

3 Hygroscopicity including the effects of SVOCs

205 The volatile nature of SVOCs results in new pathways through which the SVOCs affect κ that are not present in the non-volatile particle case. The CCN-based approach to calculating κ requires in-

Table 3. Growth factor and CCN derived mean and uncertainties in κ taken from Petters and Kreidenweis (2007).

Compound	Growth factor			CCN		
	κ_{low}	κ_{mean}	κ_{up}	κ_{low}	κ_{mean}	κ_{up}
Levoglucosan	0.15	0.165	0.18	0.193	0.208	0.223
Ammonium Sulphate	0.33	0.53	0.72	N/A	0.61	N/A
Sodium Chloride	0.91	1.12	1.33	N/A	1.28	N/A
Sulphuric Acid	N/A	1.19	N/A	N/A	0.9	N/A

tegrating the aerosol size distribution to find the diameter, D_d , above which particles activate. The aerosol size distribution, in this case, is measured at subsaturated conditions, typically $\approx 50\%$ RH (Taylor et al., 2016). The number of particles that activate, however, is controlled by the chemical composition and size of the aerosol under supersaturated conditions. This is also true of the maximum supersaturation, s_{max} , that is calculated in the parameterisation. For well-mixed internal mixtures, the hygroscopicity of aerosol can be related to the hygroscopicity of each individual compound through the mixing rule of Petters and Kreidenweis (2007),

$$\kappa = \sum_i \epsilon_i \kappa_i, \quad (4)$$

Here, κ_i is the hygroscopicity of the i^{th} compound and ϵ_i is the volume fraction of the aerosol occupied by that compound. The mixing rule (4) can still be used for the case with SVOCs but the volume fractions, ϵ_i , and consequently the hygroscopicity, of the aerosol as a whole will vary with time. In particular, the chemical composition and hygroscopicity will be different in cloud to in subsaturated air.

We introduce three single-parameter measures of the hygroscopicity that incorporate the semi-volatile organic compounds in different ways. The first, which we denote by κ_{SVOC} , is calculated using a supersaturation and CCN concentration calculated in cloud and calculate the critical diameter of the dry aerosol using the aerosol size distribution at 50% RH. This approach is similar to that used in field measurements. The second hygroscopicity, κ_{noCC} , includes semi-volatile organic compounds in the condensed phase at 50% RH but neglects any further condensation as the humidity rises. This definition is used to reflect approaches that are currently used in large-scale models such as WRF-Chem to include the partitioning of SVOCs into the particle phase under subsaturated conditions. The results for κ_{SVOC} and κ_{NoCC} are presented in Section 3.2. The third measure, called the effective hygroscopicity, carries a superscript e and describes the value of the hygroscopicity of the aerosol particles without co-condensation that is required in order to produce the same number of CCN when co-condensation is included. This method is described in Section 3.3 and is applied to the aerosol both with and without the condensed phase of the SVOCs at 50% RH. The effective hygroscopicity could be used in models that currently do not have the capacity to simulate the for-

mation of secondary aerosol mass or co-condensation of SVOCs. A list of the nomenclature used in
 235 the paper is summarised in Appendix A.

3.1 Methodology

In our model, we use the \log_{10} volatility basis set of Donahue et al. (2006) with saturation concentra-
 tions, C^* , ranging from $1 \times 10^{-6} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ to $1 \times 10^3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. Each volatility bin represents multiple
 organic species with unknown material properties. In our Monte-Carlo simulations we randomly se-
 240 lect material properties of each volatility bin using a normal distribution with means and standard
 deviations given in Table 5. The origins of these values are given in Table S2 in the Supplement and
 are based on data in the literature. To simulate uncertainty in the saturation vapour pressures of the
 individual compounds that are represented by the volatility distribution, we initially begin with the
 volatility distribution given in Cappa and Jimenez (2010), which is restated in Table 4. Some of the
 245 mass concentration in each volatility bin is then randomly redistributed between neighbouring bins
 to simulate uncertainties in the C^* values of individual compounds. This process adds a random el-
 ement to the relative mass concentrations in each volatility bin. The total concentration of SVOCs is
 then random chosen from a uniform distribution so that the bulk organic mass fraction of the aerosol
 at 50% RH, without its associated water, is between 0.1 and 0.5. Further details on all of the simu-
 250 lated uncertainties of the SVOCs are given in Section S2 in the Supplement. The size distribution of
 the non-volatile particles was sampled using the same uncertainties specified in Section 2.

Table 4. Volatility distribution of SVOCs from Cappa and Jimenez (2010).

$\log C^*$	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
$C_j (\mu\text{g m}^{-3})$	0.005	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.06	0.08	0.16	0.3	0.42	0.8

Table 5. The range of effective material parameters used for the compounds in each volatility bin. Minimum and maximum values are stated as well as the mean and standard deviation of the normal distribution from which values are sampled.

Parameter	minimum	maximum	mean	standard deviation
Molecular weight (g mol^{-1})	100	300	200	100
Density (kg m^{-3})	1000	1500	1250	250
van't Hoff factor	0	1	0.5	0.5

A Monte-Carlo simulation was carried out that calculated the range of s_{max} and N_{CCN} that
 results from the parameterisation of Connolly et al. (2014) when the volatility distributions were
 randomly chosen from the distributions described above. In each simulation, a set of non-volatile
 255 size distribution parameters and a volatility distribution and material properties of the SVOCs were

chosen randomly. Dry aerosol size distributions including condensed SVOCs were calculated at the initial RH of 50% and D_d calculated using a randomly chosen N_{CCN} from within its uncertainty range. The corresponding s_{max} was then used to calculate κ . A schematic of this process is shown in Figure 1.

260 We first investigate the effect of uncertainty in these measurements on κ that may result from using a CCN-based method, common in insitu measurements. In Section 3.3, we then go on to calculate effective κ values that the non-volatile compounds in the absence of SVOCs would have to have in order to simulate the same cloud droplet activation affinity that the SVOCs induce. This presents a possible computationally efficient method to include the effect of SVOCs on cloud in large-scale
265 models that currently do not have the capacity to do so directly.

3.2 Results including the effects of SVOCs

Using the methods detailed in Section 3.1, we calculated a range of hygroscopicities, κ_{SVOC} , that incorporate the full effect of SVOCs on ammonium sulphate, sodium chloride, levoglucosan and sulphuric acid with 10%-50% of the total aerosol mass being composed of SVOCs at 50% RH. The
270 means and uncertainties of the hygroscopicity including SVOCs are plotted against the analogous quantities calculated for just the non-volatile modes, κ_{nv} , from Section 2.2 in Figure 3. The error bars show a marginally smaller uncertainty for κ_{SVOC} , being roughly 30% of the mean, which is, at most, 10% smaller than the uncertainty associated with the non-volatile particles only.

The influence of SVOCs reduces the hygroscopicity of ammonium sulphate, sodium chloride and
275 sulphuric acid. The hygroscopicity of levoglucosan is largely unchanged, with only a very slight increase, due to its chemical properties being very similar to that of the SVOCs and, consequently, the mixing rule creates little difference between κ_{nv} and κ_{SVOC} . The more hygroscopic compounds, by comparison, will be more heavily affected because of a larger difference in κ between the non-volatile aerosol and the semi-volatile organic compounds.

280 We also calculated a range of hygroscopicities that include the initial condensed mass of organic vapours at 50% RH but do not consider any co-condensation that would occur during ascent to cloud base. We denote this as κ_{noCC} and is used to represent large-scale models that use equilibrium partitioning theory at subsaturated conditions to calculate the particle phase. The aerosol particles are assumed to be non-volatile in the parameterisation. The resulting κ_{noCC} can be calculated using
285 the mixing rule (4) and due to the low hygroscopicity of the SVOCs will be lower than κ_{nv} . Figure 4 shows that the result is nearly a 30% decrease in mean hygroscopicity in ammonium sulphate, sodium chloride and sulphuric acid with a 15% reduction in levoglucosan.

Figure 5 shows κ_{SVOC} plotted against κ_{noCC} . Both hygroscopicities are calculated using the same aerosol size distribution at 50% RH and the difference is that κ_{SVOC} has further condensed
290 mass of SVOCs added before activation. Due to the substantial decrease in hygroscopicity due to the condensed SVOCs at 50% RH, the mixing rule, when applied at cloud base, has a much less

significant effect on the aerosol composition. The additional mass, however, will act to increase the diameter of the particles that activate in the parameterisation and this will increase N_{CCN} and, consequently, κ_{SVOC} . The result is that κ_{SVOC} is larger than κ_{noCC} for all compounds due to the enhancement in size dominating the change in composition due to co-condensation. Figure 5 shows that the hygroscopicity of ammonium sulphate, sodium chloride and sulphuric acid increase by about 15% due to co-condensation and levoglucosan by 30%.

The difference between κ_{SVOC} and κ_{nv} in Figure 3 is the combination of both the suppression from the change in chemical composition, seen in Figure 4, and the enhancement due to the increased size, as seen in Figure 5. For ammonium sulphate, sodium chloride and sulphuric acid the decrease in κ due to the change in chemical composition at 50% RH dominates over the enhancement due to co-condensation and the result is a net decrease of approximately 30%. For levoglucosan, the mixing rule has a less dominant effect on chemical composition than the increase in size at cloud base and, hence, the slight increase in hygroscopicity when co-condensation of SVOCs is included compared to the non-volatile compounds alone.

3.3 Effective kappa

In this section, we suggest a potential method to include the effects of SVOCs on cloud droplet activation in large-scale models that is computationally efficient and does include the process of co-condensation as the relative humidity exceeds 100%. This approach, additionally, allows for a dependence on aerosol properties rather than assuming an arbitrary effective radius of the cloud droplets. Our method involves using our Monte-Carlo simulations using the cloud droplet activation parameterisation including the effects of SVOCs (Connolly et al., 2014) to calculate the number of CCN for a given size distribution of non-volatile particles and volatility distribution. The effective hygroscopicity, κ_{nv}^e , is the hygroscopicity of the involatile particles in the absence of SVOCs required in order to activate the same number of cloud droplets as when co-condensation is included.

At very low updrafts, the parameterisation can be insensitive to the hygroscopicity and, consequently, there may not exist a value of κ_{nv}^e that produces the same concentration of CCN as in the SVOC case. Similarly, at high updrafts, the parameterisation often activates all particles, even when the hygroscopicity is very low. To avoid these complications, we iterate the vertical updraft in the parameterisation with SVOCs until 90% of particles activate. The parameterisation without SVOCs is then evaluated at this updraft while iterating the hygroscopicity until, again, 90% of particles activate. The resulting hygroscopicity is defined as the κ_{nv}^e .

Figure 6 compares the κ_{nv} values from our Monte-Carlo simulations for just the non-volatile aerosol against the effective κ_{nv}^e values of the non-volatile aerosol. The mean effective κ_{nv}^e values are significantly higher than the mean κ_{nv} of the non-volatile compounds in all four cases with an increase of a factor of 2 for ammonium sulphate, sodium chloride and sulphuric acid and a factor of 4 in the case of levoglucosan. The reason for this increase is that the non-volatile particles are

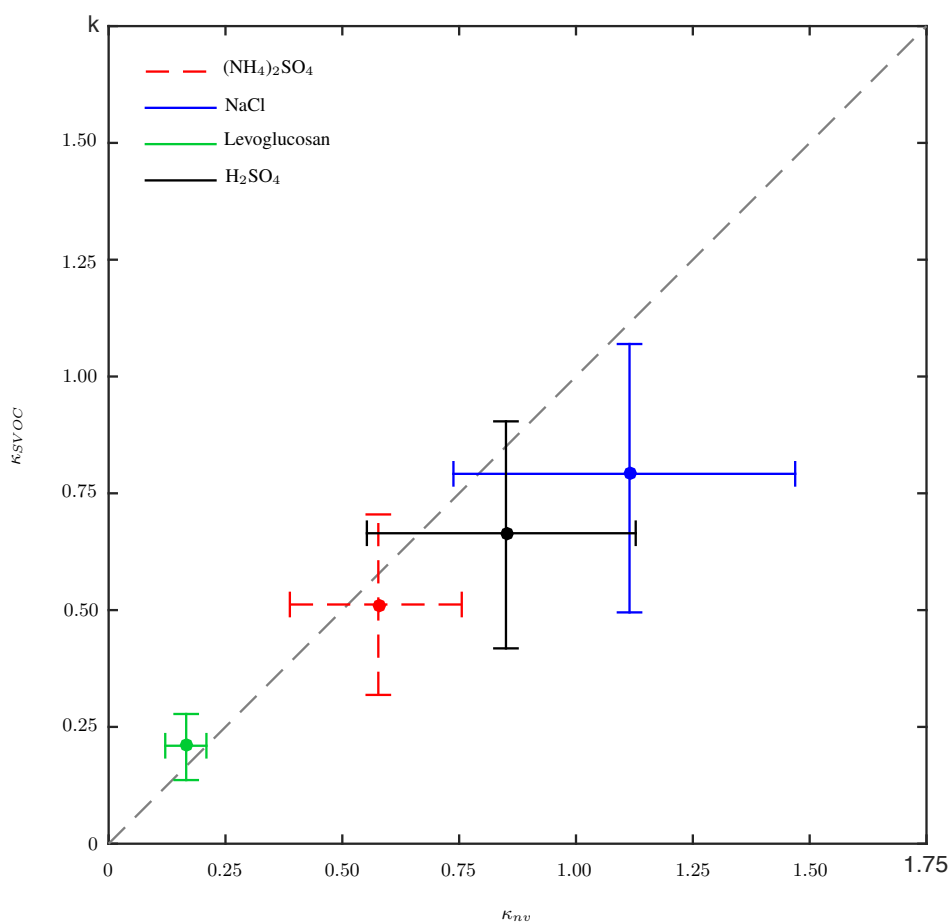


Figure 3. Hygroscopicity including the SVOCs, κ_{SVOC} , plotted against κ_{nv} . The grey dashed line shows equality between the axes, error bars showing the middle 67% of our derived values and the intersections of the error bars depicting the means. Ammonium sulphate is shown in red with dashed error bars, sodium chloride is shown in blue, levoglucosan is shown by the green and sulphuric acid is shown in black.

much smaller than the particles that activate in the presence of SVOCs and, consequently, must have a larger κ_{nv}^e in order to compensate. Neglecting the effect of SVOCs could, therefore, have a significant effect on CCN concentrations as a result of misrepresenting the aerosol hygroscopicity. The uncertainty ranges are slightly larger in the effective κ_{nv}^e cases than the analogous κ_{nv} values but a significant increase is only observed for levoglucosan. This is due to a very small uncertainty in κ_{nv} for levoglucosan rather than a large uncertainty in the effective hygroscopicity. On average, the uncertainty spans about 30-40% of the mean for all compounds.

Similar calculations can be carried out to study potential consequences of neglecting just the co-condensation of SVOCs in large-scale models. The effective hygroscopicity of the aerosol size distribution at 50% RH, κ_{noCC}^e , in this case can then be calculated in an analogous way to the non-volatile case. Figure 7 compares the hygroscopicity of the internally mixed aerosol at 50% RH in the

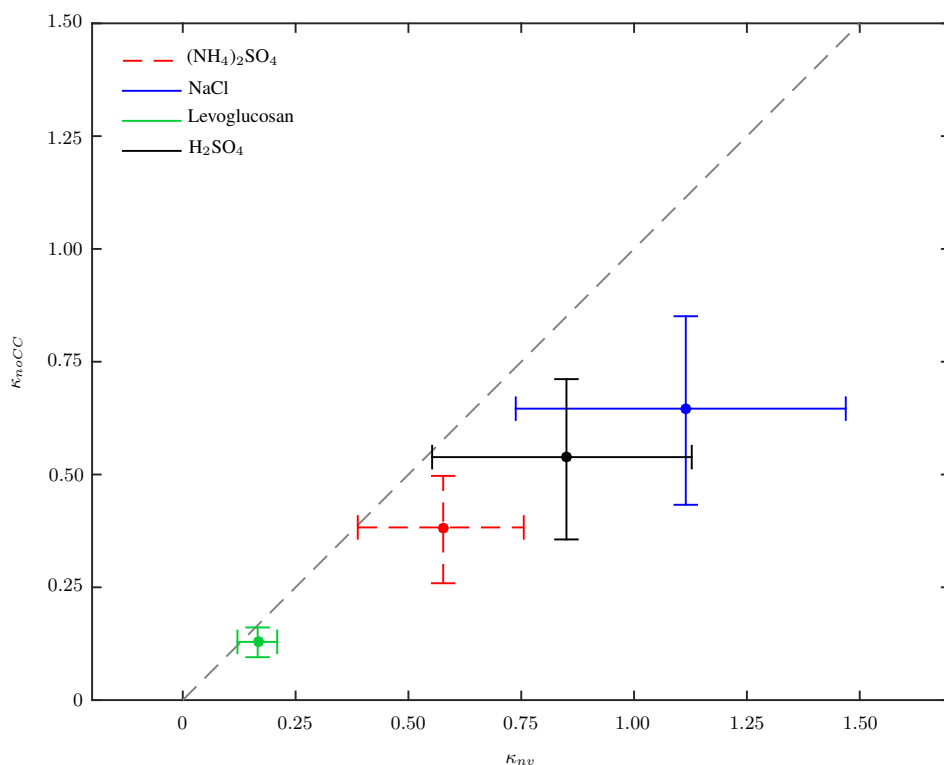


Figure 4. Hygroscopicity, κ_{noCC} , plotted against κ_{nv} . The grey dashed line shows equality between the axes, error bars showing the middle 67% of our derived values and the intersections of the error bars depicting the means. Ammonium sulphate is shown in red with dashed error bars, sodium chloride is shown in blue, levoglucosan is shown by the green and sulphuric acid is shown in black.

absence of further co-condensation of SVOCs, κ_{noCC} , against the effective hygroscopicity of such particles, κ_{noCC}^e . As in the involatile case, the effective κ_{noCC}^e values are larger than those without co-condensation, with an increase by a factor of 2 seen for ammonium sulphate, sodium chloride and sulphuric acid. Levoglucosan increases by more, as before, but only by a factor of 3. The uncertainty associated with the effective κ_{noCC}^e in this case is much smaller than in Figure 6, varying by only about 0.2-0.3, although this still represents a similar 30-40% of the mean value.

345 4 Conclusions

We propose that semi volatile organic compounds have a significant impact on the hygroscopicity of atmospheric aerosol, and therefore the ability for these aerosols to form cloud droplets. The effects of SVOCs can both increase and decrease κ . The mixing rule detailed in section 3.2 can shift κ either way, dependent on the hygroscopicity of the non-volatile aerosol at 50% RH. If the hygroscopicity of the non-volatile aerosol is lower than the mean hygroscopicity of the SVOCs then κ will be increased, as is the case with levoglucosan. For non-volatile aerosol with higher hygroscopicity than

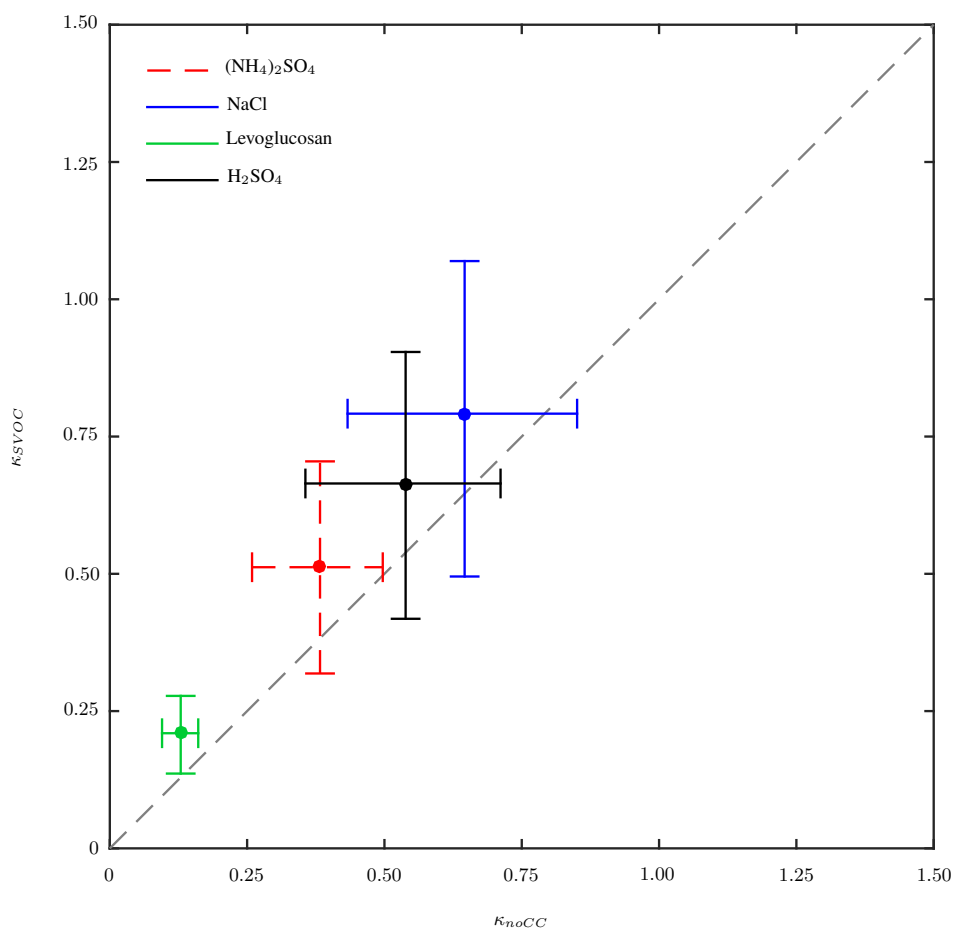


Figure 5. Hygroscopicity, κ_{SVOC} plotted against κ_{nv} . The grey dashed line shows equality between the axes, error bars showing the middle 67% of our derived values and the intersections of the error bars depicting the means. Ammonium sulphate is shown in red with dashed error bars, sodium chloride is shown in blue, levoglucosan is shown by the green and sulphuric acid is shown in black.

the SVOCs, the mixing rule will have a tendency to decrease κ when the SVOCs are included. The magnitude of the shift in κ is dependent upon the difference between the κ of the SVOCs and κ of the aerosol along with the mass of SVOCs present. Semi-volatile compounds also affect κ by enhancing
 355 the size of swollen aerosol in the atmosphere, which consequently increases N_{CCN} , resulting in a smaller D_d that then produces an increase in κ . These two effects contrast each other, with one being dominant over the other and which is dominant is dependant on the situation. With a full consideration of SVOCs, the overall effect is that non-volatile aerosol particles with κ greater than that of the SVOCs give a κ_{SVOC} which is less than κ_{nv} , whereas if κ of the non-volatile aerosol is
 360 smaller than the SVOCs then $\kappa_{SVOC} > \kappa_{nv}$. A larger disparity between the hygroscopicity of the aerosol and the semi-volatile compounds causes a larger translation of the mean κ .

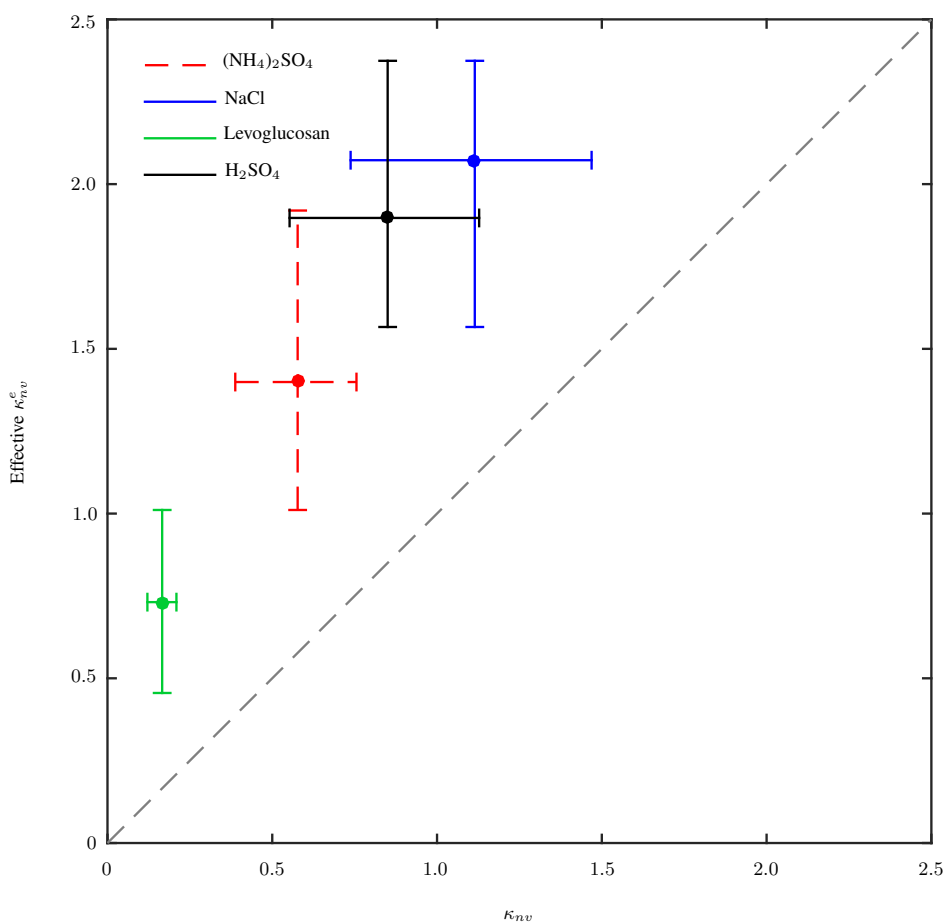


Figure 6. Effective hygroscopicity, κ_{nv}^e plotted against the hygroscopicity of non volatile compounds, κ_{nv} . The dots show the mean values and the error bars represent the 16th and 84th quantiles. Ammonium sulphate is shown in red with dashed error bars, sodium chloride is shown in blue, levoglucosan is shown by the green and sulphuric acid is shown in black. The dashed grey line shows the 1:1 line.

The effects of SVOCs is also subject to the complexity of their inclusion in the model. We have shown that by omitting the effects of semi-volatile compounds during co-condensation, we obtain a lower hygroscopicity values than if co-condensation is fully included since κ_{noCC} is less than κ_{SVOC} . It is crucial to include all the effects of SVOCs on activation, including co-condensation because the magnitude of the underestimation of κ_{noCC} compared to κ_{SVOC} can be of similar magnitude to the overestimation of κ_{nv} compared to κ_{SVOC} .

Semi-volatile organic compounds in the atmosphere give an effective κ that is greater than that of the non-volatile compounds, despite the mixing rule causing a reduction in hygroscopicity for many compounds. Consequently, the co-condensation of SVOCs can significantly increase the CCN concentrations observed compared to those that would be expected from the involatile aerosol in environments without SVOCs. There is the necessity for them to be included into large-scale global

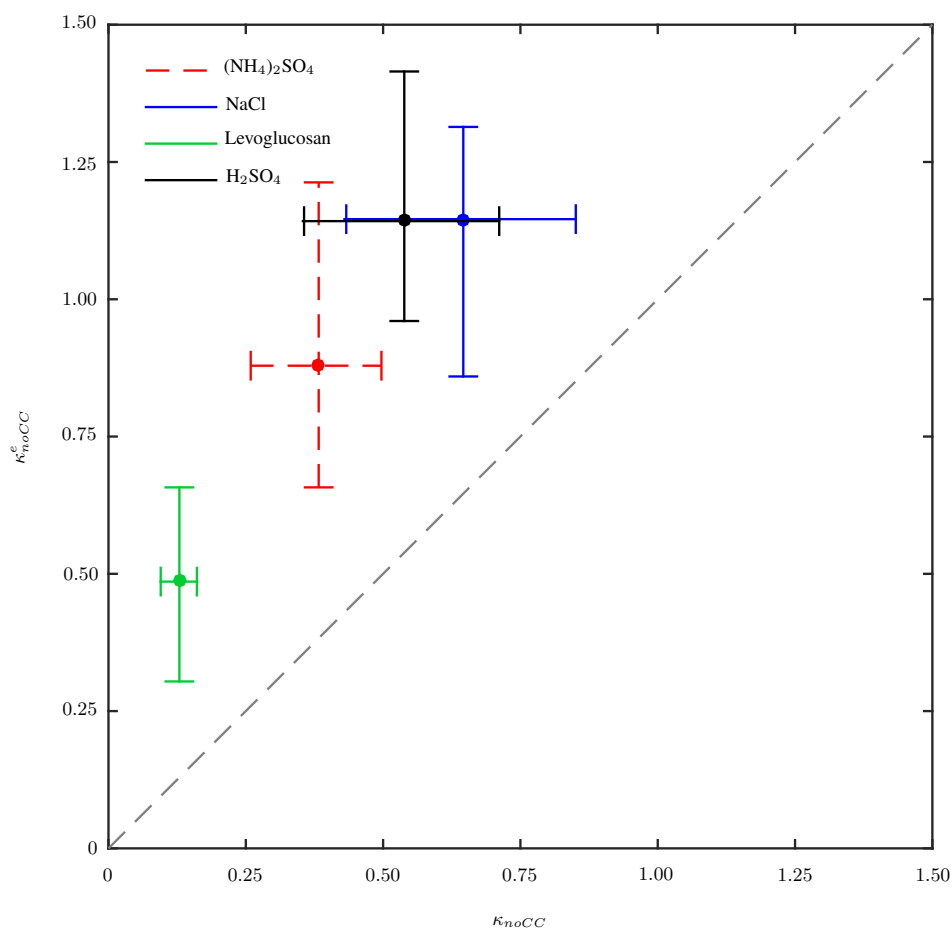


Figure 7. Effective hygroscopicity, κ_{noCC}^e , values plotted against the hygroscopicity including the condensed SVOCs at 50% RH in the absence of further co-condensation, κ_{noCC} . Error bars represent the 16th and 84th quantiles. Ammonium sulphate is shown in red with dashed error bars, sodium chloride is shown in blue, levoglucosan is shown by the green and sulphuric acid is shown in black.

models to avoid a drastic underestimation in the number of cloud droplets, with the potential for large global implications if not thoroughly considered.

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Appendix A: Nomenclature

Table 6. Definitions of the different hygroscopicity measures used in this paper.

symbol	definition
κ	general reference to aerosol hygroscopicity
κ_{nv}	hygroscopicity of an involatile aerosol, as defined by Petters and Kreidenweis (2007)
κ_{low}	lowest growth factor derived hygroscopicity stated in Petters and Kreidenweis (2007)
κ_{up}	highest growth factor derived hygroscopicity stated in Petters and Kreidenweis (2007)
κ_i	the hygroscopicity of the i^{th} component in an internally mixed involatile aerosol
κ_{SVOC}	hygroscopicity that maybe measured following the co-condensation of SVOCs
κ_{noCC}	hygroscopicity that includes equilibrium condensed concentration of SVOCs at 50% RH but are subsequently assumed involatile
κ_{nv}^e	hygroscopicity of the involatile size distribution required to activate the same number of CCN when co-condensation is included
κ_{noCC}^e	hygroscopicity of the equilibrium size distribution at 50% RH required to activate the same number of CCN when co-condensation is included

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