



1 **Vertical profile of atmospheric dimethyl sulfide in the Arctic**  
2 **Spring and Summer**

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19

20 **Abstract**

21 Vertical distributions of atmospheric dimethyl sulfide (DMS(g)) were sampled aboard the research  
22 aircraft Polar 6 near Lancaster Sound, Nunavut, Canada in July 2014 and on pan-Arctic flights in April  
23 2015 that started from Longyearbyen, Spitzbergen, and passed through Alert and Eureka, Nunavut and  
24 Inuvik, Northwest Territories. Larger mean DMS(g) mixing ratios were present during April 2015  
25 (campaign-mean of  $116 \pm 8$  pptv) compared to July 2014 (campaign-mean of  $20 \pm 6$  pptv). Observations in  
26 July 2014 indicated a decrease in DMS(g) mixing ratios with altitude up to about 3 km, and the largest



1 mixing ratios were found near the surface above ice-edge and open water, coincident with increased  
2 particle concentrations. In contrast, DMS(g) mixing ratios sampled in April 2015 were as high as 100  
3 pptv near 2500 m. The April campaign also exhibited uniform campaign-mean vertical profiles overall  
4 although some profiles showed an increase with altitude.

5 GEOS-Chem chemical-transport model simulations indicate that Arctic seawater (north of 66°N)  
6 contributes the majority of DMS(g) to the Arctic profiles (>90%) in July 2014 flight tracks which were  
7 below 3000 m. More than 90% of DMS(g) in April 2015 was from Arctic seawater for measurements  
8 below 500 m, but that declined to 60% for altitudes between 500 m and 3000 m. FLEXPART simulations  
9 indicate that for summer 2014, the sampled air mass originated over Baffin Bay and the Canadian Arctic  
10 Archipelago. Whereas, for springtime 2015, the air mass sampled on flights near Alert and Eureka  
11 originated from Baffin Bay/Canadian Archipelago and from long-range transport (LRT) around the  
12 northern tip of Greenland. Our results highlight the role of open water below the flight as the source of  
13 DMS(g) during July 2014, and the influence of LRT of DMS(g) from further afield in the Arctic above  
14 2500 m during April 2015.

15

## 16 **1 Introduction**

17 The Arctic has experienced rapid climate change in recent decades (IPCC, 2013). Its high climate  
18 sensitivity distinguishes the Arctic from the rest of the world. The Arctic Ocean moderates Arctic climate  
19 and has variable surface temperature and salinity as ice cover melts and freezes (Bourgain et al., 2013).  
20 This ocean is an important source of atmospheric gases and particles (e.g. dimethyl sulfide, as well as sea  
21 salt, organic and biogenic particles) (e.g. Bates et al., 1987; Andreae, 1990; Yin et al., 1990; Leck and  
22 Bigg, 2005a, b; Barnes et al., 2006; Ayers and Caine, 2007; Sharma et al. 2012). Aerosols affect the  
23 climate by scattering/reflecting sunlight (direct effects), changing number/size of cloud droplets and  
24 altering precipitation efficiency (indirect effects) (Twomey, 1974; Albrecht, 1989). The study of these  
25 particles has been of interest for numerous researchers because of their importance in Arctic climate  
26 change. Najafi et al. (2015) estimated that the net effect of aerosol is cooling the Arctic. However, there  
27 are many uncertainties related to the estimation of effects and sources of aerosol particles.



1 Atmospheric oxidation of DMS(g) is the main source of biogenic sulfate aerosols in the Arctic (Norman  
2 et al., 1999). DMS(aq) is produced by the breakdown of dimethylsulfonopropionate (DMSP) by oceanic  
3 phytoplankton and bacteria DMSP-lyases (Levasseur, 2013) and transported to the atmosphere via  
4 turbulence, diffusion and advection (Lunden et al., 2010). Sulfur compounds from atmospheric DMS(g)  
5 oxidation are able to form new particles and condense on pre-existing aerosols in the atmosphere (Chang  
6 et al., 2011). If sufficient condensable vapours are available, the particles may grow large enough to act  
7 as cloud condensation nuclei (CCN) (Charlson et al., 1987). Although there are uncertainties in details of  
8 the negative feedback of DMS(g) emissions to warming at the global scale or CLAW hypothesis  
9 (Charlson et al., 1987), such as the air–sea exchange, atmospheric chemistry/reactions and cloud  
10 microphysics (Quinn and Bates, 2011), DMS(g) emissions play a relatively more important role in climate  
11 change in remote areas with low aerosol concentrations, such as in the Arctic (Carslaw et al., 2013,  
12 Levasseur 2013, Croft et al., 2016a).

13 Dimethyl sulfide production and emission to the atmosphere vary seasonally. Production and emission  
14 are particularly strong during the Arctic summer time due to high temperature, biological activity, and  
15 the amount of ice-free surface area. Melting ice in the marginal ice zone, ice-edge and under-ice are  
16 favourable for the production of DMSP and aqueous DMS(aq) by oceanic phytoplankton (Leck and  
17 Persson, 1996; Matrai and Vernet, 1997; Levasseur 2013). After summer, aqueous phase DMS(aq)  
18 concentrations decrease by about three orders of magnitude between August and October in the central  
19 Arctic Ocean (Leck and Persson, 1996).

20 Dimethyl sulfide oxidation in the atmosphere occurs by the radical addition pathway (by hydroxyl radicals  
21 OH and halogen oxides) and by the H abstraction pathway (by the nitrate radical NO<sub>3</sub>, OH and halogens)  
22 (Barnes et al., 2006; von Glasow and Crutzen, 2004). In general, the DMS(g) oxidation rate and pathway  
23 depends on the available oxidants and temperature. The final products of DMS(g) oxidation by the  
24 addition pathway are DMSO and MSA. MSA likely condenses onto pre-existing aerosols (von Glasow  
25 and Crutzen, 2004). On the other hand, DMS(g) oxidation by the abstraction pathway leads to formation  
26 of SO<sub>2</sub>. More than half of SO<sub>2</sub> is removed from the atmosphere via dry and wet deposition and the  
27 remaining SO<sub>2</sub> may form sulfuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) in the gas and aqueous phases (Pierce, et al., 2013).



1 Sulfuric acid formed in the gas phase is a key atmospheric nucleation component which is able to form  
2 new particles that may grow to the size of CCN and affect climate (Kulmala, et al., 2004).

3 Previous measurements of DMS(g) in the Arctic atmosphere are limited to a few studies and field  
4 campaigns at different locations (e.g. Sharma et al., 1999; Rempillo et al., 2011; Mungall et al., 2016).  
5 The study of the vertical distribution of DMS (g) in the Arctic atmosphere is also limited to a few  
6 observations. Ferek et al., (1995) reported the first measurements of DMS(g) vertical profiles over the  
7 Arctic Ocean near Barrow in early summer 1990 and spring 1992. They reported low DMS(g) mixing  
8 ratios (a few pptv) during spring and relatively high (a few tens pptv with some peaks around 100 to 300  
9 pptv) during summer. They concluded that the Arctic Ocean is the potential source of DMS(g), and DMS  
10 (g) ocean-atmosphere exchange is more important early summer due to sea ice melt.

11 Kupiszewski et al. (2013) measured atmospheric DMS(g) on board a helicopter and observed large  
12 variability in DMS(g) mixing ratios over the central Arctic Ocean during summer. The median (mean)  
13 values were around 7 (34) pptv near the surface < 200 m, 11 (22) pptv for altitude between 200 and 1000  
14 m, and 4 (5) pptv above 1000 m.

15 Lunden et al. (2010) presented model results for the vertical distribution of DMS (g) in the Arctic (north  
16 of 70°N) during summer. They reported a variable vertical profile for DMS(g) concentrations above open  
17 water, with the highest concentrations near the surface (around 115 and 365 pptv for the median and 95th  
18 percentiles respectively) and an exponential decrease with height. In contrast, over the pack-ice, DMS(g)  
19 concentrations were higher above the local boundary layer than at the surface. Also, Lunden et al. (2010)  
20 showed that DMS(g) can be mixed downward by turbulence into the local boundary layer and act as a  
21 local near-surface DMS source over the pack-ice. In addition, they compared modeling results with  
22 measurements from the Arctic Ocean Expedition 2001 (AOE-2001, Leck et al., 2004; Tjernström et al.,  
23 2004) and reported that DMS(g) was present above the local boundary layer in both the model and  
24 observations.

25 For our study, atmospheric DMS(g) samples were collected in Tenax tubes during Polar 6 aircraft flights  
26 in the Arctic. We compared these DMS(g) measurements to GEOS-Chem chemical transport model  
27 simulations and conducted sensitivity simulations to examine the local versus long range transport (LRT)  
28 DMS(g) sources for both the spring and summer. In addition, FLEXPART was applied in back trajectory



1 mode in order to investigate the DMS(g) source regions based on potential emission sensitivity  
2 simulations. Field and sampling locations, as well as measurement/modeling methods are described in  
3 section 2. Section 3 includes meteorological and DMS(g) measurement data. Section 4 presents  
4 discussion of results, and comparison of measurement with modeling results (GEOS-Chem and  
5 FLEXPART) are in section 5. The summary and conclusion of this study are reported in section 6.

6

## 7 **2 Field description and methods**

### 8 **2.1 Measurements**

#### 9 **2.1.1 DMS**

10 DMS(g) was collected aboard the research aircraft Polar 6 in the Arctic during July 2014 and April 2015,  
11 as part of the NETCARE (Network on Climate and Aerosols: Addressing Key Uncertainties in Remote  
12 Canadian Environments) project. The Polar 6 aircraft routes and sampling locations from 12 to 21 July  
13 2014, and from 5 to 20 April 2015 are shown in Figures 1 and 2, respectively. The Polar 6 campaign was  
14 based from Resolute Bay, Nunavut, and covered the Lancaster Sound area in July 2014. In April 2015,  
15 the flights started from Longyearbyen, Spitzbergen, and passed through Alert and Eureka, Nunavut and  
16 Inuvik, Northwest Territories.

17 Atmospheric DMS(g) was collected on cartridges packed with Tenax TA<sup>®</sup>. Mass flow was controlled at  
18 200 mL/min, and a KI-treated 47 mm quartz Whatman filter was fitted at the intake of cartridge to remove  
19 all oxidants. Two Teflon valves were placed before and after the Tenax tube to control the sampling  
20 period, and Teflon tubing was used to transfer the sample from outside the aircraft to the sampler. The  
21 samples were stored in an insulated container with a freezer pack after collection and in a freezer after the  
22 flight. Sampling collection times were between 2 to 10 minutes in 2014 and 4 to 11 minutes in 2015.

23 A glass gas chromatograph (GC) inlet liner was used to pack  $170 \pm 2$  mg of Tenax. The Tenax packed in  
24 glass tubes was cleaned by heating to 200°C in an oven with a constant He flow of around 15 mL/min for  
25 5 hours. After cleaning, Tenax was injected with 50  $\mu$ L of 1 ppm DMS(g) standard and stored in a freezer  
26 at -25°C. Three Tenax tubes injected with standard DMS(g) along with one blank Tenax tube were



1 analyzed for each test period in the laboratory using a Hewlett Packard 5890 GC fitted with a Sievers  
2 Model 355 sulfur chemiluminescence detector (SCD). Two DMS(g) standards in gas phase (1 and 50  
3 ppmv) were used to calibrate the GC-SCD. Collection and analysis of samples were based on methods  
4 described by Sharma et al. (1999) and Rempillo et al. (2011). There is  $\pm 12$  pptv of uncertainty associated  
5 with DMS(g) measurements with this method.  
6 Additional tests were performed to determine if there was significant loss of DMS(g) over time after  
7 collection. An experiment was performed to determine how long Tenax is able to store DMS(g) with no  
8 significant loss of concentration. Tenax storage tests at  $-25^{\circ}\text{C}$  showed that DMS losses were  
9 approximately 5% and 15% after 10 and 20 days respectively (Figure 3). The DMS(g) mixing ratios  
10 summarized in Table 1 are adjusted according to the result of this test.

## 11 2.1.2 Meteorological measurements

12 Meteorological measurements were performed by an AIMMS-20 (Aircraft Integrated Meteorological  
13 Measurement System) instrument, manufactured by Aventech Research Inc., Barrie, Ontario, Canada.  
14 This instrument was used to measure the three-dimensional, aircraft-relative flow vector (true air speed,  
15 angle-of-attack, and sideslip), temperature, relative humidity, turbulence, and horizontal/vertical wind  
16 speeds. Accuracy and resolution were 0.30 and 0.01  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  for temperature and 2.0 and 0.1 % for relative  
17 humidity. More details of the instrument and corresponding aircraft measurements were recently  
18 published in other studies from the same campaign (e.g. Leitch et al., 2016, Aliabadi et al., 2016b, and  
19 Willis et al., 2016).

20

## 21 2.2 Model Description

### 22 2.2.1 GEOS-Chem Chemical Transport Model

23 The GEOS-Chem chemical transport model ([www.geos-chem.org](http://www.geos-chem.org)) was used to interpret the vertical  
24 profile of DMS(g). We used GEOS-Chem version 9-02 at  $2\times 2.5^{\circ}$  resolution with 47 vertical layers  
25 between the surface and 0.01 hPa. The assimilated meteorology is taken from the National Aeronautics



1 and Space Administration (NASA) Global Modeling and Assimilation Office (GMAO) Goddard Earth  
2 Observing System version 5.7.2 (GEOS-FP) assimilated meteorology product, which includes both  
3 hourly surface fields and 3-hourly 3D fields. Our simulations used 2014 and 2015 meteorology following  
4 a 1-month spin-up prior to the simulation of July 2014 and April 2015.

5 The GEOS-Chem model includes a detailed oxidant-aerosol tropospheric chemistry mechanism as  
6 originally described by Bey et al. (2001). The simulated aerosol species include sulfate-nitrate-ammonium  
7 (Park et al. 2004; 2006), carbonaceous aerosols (Park et al, 2003; Liao et al. 2007), dust (Fairlie et al.  
8 2007; 2010) and sea salt (Alexander et al. 2005). The sulfate-nitrate-ammonium chemistry uses the  
9 ISORROPIA II thermodynamic model (Fountoukis et al. 2007), which partitions ammonia and nitric acid  
10 between the gas and aerosol phases. Climatological biomass burning emissions are from the Global Fire  
11 Emissions Dataset (GFED3). DMS(g) emissions are based on the Liss and Merlivat (1986) sea-air flux  
12 formulation, and oceanic DMS(g) concentrations from Lana et al. (2011). In our simulations, DMS(g)  
13 emissions occurred only in the fraction of the grid box that is covered by seawater and also free of sea  
14 ice. Simulated DMS(g) oxidation occurs by reaction with OH and NO<sub>3</sub>. The model also includes natural  
15 and anthropogenic sources of SO<sub>2</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub> (Fisher et al. 2011). Oxidation of SO<sub>2</sub> occurs in clouds by  
16 reaction with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> and in the gas phase with OH (Alexander et al, 2009). Reaction rates and the  
17 yields of SO<sub>2</sub> and MSA from DMS(g) oxidation are determined by DeMore et al. (1997) and Chatfield  
18 and Crutzen (1990), respectively.

19 The GEOS-Chem model has been extensively applied to study the Arctic atmosphere, in regard to aerosol  
20 acidity (Wentworth et al., 2016; Fisher et al., 2011) carbonaceous aerosol (Wang et al., 2011), aerosol  
21 number (Leaitch et al., 2013, Croft et al., 2016a, b), aerosol absorption (Breider et al., 2014), mercury  
22 (Fisher et al. 2012), and recently surface-layer DMS(g) (Mungall et al. 2016).

### 23 2.2.2 FLEXPART-ECMWF

24 For this study, the Lagrangian particle distribution model, FLEXPART model (Stohl et al., 2005; website:  
25 <https://www.flexpart.eu/>) is driven by global meteorological analysis data from European center for  
26 medium-range weather forecasts (ECMWF) for July 2014 and April 2015. For the ECMWF data a  
27 horizontal grid spacing of 0.25° was used along with 137 hybrid sigma-pressure levels in the vertical from



1 the surface up to 0.01 hPa. FLEXPART was operated in backward mode to estimate potential emission  
2 sources and transport pathways influencing Polar 6 DMS(g) measurements in summer 2014 and spring  
3 2015.

4

### 5 **3 Measurement results and discussion**

#### 6 **3.1 Meteorological CO, aerosol number concentration and O<sub>3</sub> profiles**

7 Wind interaction at the surface of the ocean, temperature, pressure, and ice cover are important factors in  
8 DMS(g) exchange between the ocean and atmosphere. After emission from the ocean, the vertical profile  
9 of DMS(g) is controlled by mixing in the boundary layer, air mass transport and chemical conversion  
10 rates. Water vapour, O<sub>3</sub> and CO are potential indicators of DMS(g) conversion as the oceans are a source  
11 of H<sub>2</sub>O(g) as well as DMS(g). H<sub>2</sub>O(g) and O<sub>3</sub> control OH production in the presence of sunlight, and CO  
12 is an indicator of combustion and can be associated with other pollutant gas and aerosol transport. It is  
13 interesting to examine the average particle concentration number as well since aerosol production under  
14 clean Arctic conditions could be triggered when DMS(g) and sufficient oxidants are present. Alternately,  
15 if the aerosols present were associated more strongly with CO and transport then DMS(g) may be reduced  
16 due to oxidation on or within the surface of aerosols.

17 DMS(g) mixing ratios were compared with temperature, pressure, H<sub>2</sub>O(g) and CO for each campaign and  
18 show no evidence of any significant relationships (Figures S1 and S2). Figure S3a shows the vertical  
19 profile for average H<sub>2</sub>O(g) mixing ratios. Average H<sub>2</sub>O(g) mixing ratios in the atmosphere were higher  
20 during July 2014 (> 7300 ppmv) than April 2015 (> 900 ppmv), due to higher temperature, less ice cover,  
21 and therefore more exchange between ocean and atmosphere.

22 However, when concurrent measurements of H<sub>2</sub>O(g) during the flights is plotted against DMS(g), an anti-  
23 correlation ( $R^2=0.6$ ) is observed by considering both spring and summer campaigns together (Figure S4).  
24 Assuming that both DMS and H<sub>2</sub>O(g) originated from the ocean, which is much warmer than the Arctic  
25 atmosphere in spring, loss of H<sub>2</sub>O(g) relative to DMS(g) is implied by higher present of clouds in the  
26 atmosphere during April. Cloud and precipitation would remove H<sub>2</sub>O(g), but DMS(g) interacts weakly  
27 with cloud water (Henry's Law constant of 0.14 mol/L-atm). Thus, more cloud processing of the



1 measured DMS(g) during spring, compared with summer, is implied. More cloud during transport may  
2 also extend the DMS(g) lifetime by lowering the rate of photochemical oxidation.

3

### 4 **3.2 DMS measurements and discussion**

5 DMS(g) concentrations as a function of altitude are shown in Figure 4 for the July 2014 and April 2015  
6 flights. The campaign-mean DMS(g) mixing ratios were  $20 \pm 6$  pptv (maximum of 114 pptv) for July 2014  
7 and  $116 \pm 8$  pptv (maximum of 157 pptv) for April 2015.

8 The 2014 sampling locations focused on the Lancaster Sound, Nunavut region in July 2014, whereas  
9 sampling in April 2015 occurred over a broad region of the Arctic: Longyearbyen, Spitzbergen, Alert and  
10 Eureka, Nunavut and Inuvik, Northwest Territories. Observations on individual flights in July 2014  
11 indicate either decreasing DMS(g) mixing ratios with increasing altitude or relatively uniform DMS(g)  
12 mixing ratios (independent of altitude). During spring of the following year (April 2015),  
13 DMS(g) mixing ratios on individual flights were more uniform with altitude and in some cases increased  
14 with altitude.

15 During July, 2014, the highest DMS(g) mixing ratios were measured near ice-edges and above open  
16 waters (e.g. samples  $>40$  pptv, July 12, 20 and 21). That, and the decrease of atmospheric DMS(g) with  
17 altitude, suggest the atmospheric DMS(g) was locally sourced (Lancaster Sound and Baffin Bay) during  
18 the month of July, consistent with the findings of Mungall et al. (2016) conducted from the icebreaker  
19 CCGS Amundsen. The decline in DMS(g) mixing ratios with height may be due to a combination of weak  
20 vertical mixing and photochemical reactions.

21 Previous observations of seasonal variations in DMS(aq) in the Arctic Ocean found the maximum  
22 DMS(aq) occurred in July and August (e. g. Bates et al., 1987; Leck and Persson, 1996, Levasseur 2013).  
23 After the August peak, DMS(aq) declines due to lower biological activity (Leck and Persson, 1996). From  
24 DMS(g) concentrations in both the surface ocean and in the atmosphere just above the ocean surface  
25 (median DMS (g) of 186 pptv), Mungall et al. (2016) estimated the air-sea DMS(g) flux ranging from  
26  $0.02\text{--}12 \mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$  in July 2014 in the same location as the present measurements (Lancaster Sound).  
27 For the same campaign, Ghahremaninezhad et al. (2016) showed that the dominant source for fine aerosol



1 and SO<sub>2</sub> measured onboard the Amundsen at the same location and about 30 m above the ocean's surface  
2 was biogenic sulfur, arising from DMS(g) oxidation. Atmospheric oxidation of DMS(g) is expected to  
3 proceed more readily in the summertime Arctic atmosphere than in spring, due to higher temperatures  
4 and more sunlight.

5 During April, the higher DMS(g) mixing ratios, in the free troposphere over ice-covered regions (Figure  
6 4, right panel), stability of the Arctic atmosphere, and limited vertical mixing, suggest that DMS(g) can  
7 be transported to the sampling locations from other regions within the Arctic and/or from lower latitudes  
8 (except for April 4 when DMS(g) sampling was above open water). These results contrast with results  
9 from Ferek et al., (1995) where lower DMS(g) mixing ratios (a few pptv) were found over the Arctic  
10 Ocean near Barrow during spring 1992. Andrea et al. (1988) presented vertical profiles of DMS(g) mixing  
11 ratios measured over the northeast Pacific Ocean during May 1985 (with a maximum ~ 30 pptv in the  
12 mixed layer and also 3600 m). They found that DMS(g) mixing ratios depend on the stability of the  
13 atmosphere and air mass sources and that long-range transport at mid tropospheric levels was important  
14 in remote areas of the northern hemisphere.

15 Hoffmann et al., (2016) showed that DMS(g) chemistry should be considered in both gas and aqueous  
16 phases to improve modelling predictions. However, high DMS(g) mixing ratios aloft in spring with low  
17 H<sub>2</sub>O(g) do not support strong DMS(g) oxidation in the aqueous-phase. Instead, the results shown here  
18 are consistent with longer DMS(g) lifetimes in April than July due to lower OH mixing ratios enabling  
19 long-range range transport of more DMS(g) (Li et al., 1993). Ozone depletion during spring was observed  
20 within the boundary layer (Fig S3b) and is well documented in the literature (e.g. Barrie et al., 1989).  
21 Ozone depletion may further decrease OH near the surface and enhance DMS(g) lifetimes in the boundary  
22 layer. However, if present in the ozone-depleted boundary layer, halogen oxides, such as BrO radical,  
23 are likely more important during winter/spring than summer and could oxidize DMS(g) (von Glasow et  
24 al., 2004, Chen et al., 2016).

25 Average vertical profiles of aerosol number concentrations larger than about 5 nm diameter are shown in  
26 Figure 5. The increase in number concentrations near the surface during July 2014 is coincident with the  
27 higher levels of DMS(g) near the surface and highlights the role of the ocean (local source) in new particle  
28 formation (NPF) during this study (Willis et al., 2016; Burkart et al., 2016). In contrast, elevated particle



1 number concentrations during April 2015, were more often seen aloft with a decrease towards the surface.  
2 With the current dataset, it is impossible to say if potential NPF events aloft during the spring were  
3 connected with the higher DMS(g) aloft.  
4

## 5 **4 Chemical-transport-model simulations and discussion**

### 6 **4.1 GEOS-Chem**

7 We simulated the vertical profile of DMS(g) mixing ratios with the GEOS-Chem chemical-transport  
8 model, and the model was co-sampled along the Polar 6 aircraft tracks. Recently, GEOS-Chem was used  
9 to interpret DMS(g) measurements in the Arctic surface-layer atmosphere (Mungall et al., 2016).  
10 However, despite the significant influence of DMS(g) on the Arctic climate relative to lower latitudes and  
11 the importance of where DMS(g) oxidation occurs vertically (Woodhouse et al., 2013), measurements of  
12 DMS(g) vertical profiles are rare in the Arctic atmosphere.

13 Figure 6 shows the campaign-mean vertical profile of DMS(g) for the co-sampled GEOS-Chem  
14 simulation and our measurements for both July 2014 and April 2015. In July 2014, both the measurements  
15 and simulation show a strong decrease of DMS(g) mixing ratios with altitude in the lowest 300 m.  
16 Aliabadi et al. (2016a and 2016b) estimated the boundary layer height as  $275 \pm 164$  m, using data from  
17 radiosondes launched at Resolute Bay and the Amundsen icebreaker, during the 2014 campaign. Aliabadi  
18 et al. (2016b) indicated that the magnitude of turbulent fluxes of momentum, heat and the associated  
19 diffusion coefficients are significantly reduced above the boundary layer height during the 2014  
20 campaign. Thus, we find the strongest vertical gradient between the boundary layer and above. In the  
21 boundary layer, the GEOS-Chem simulation over predicts the measurements, but is within a factor of 2  
22 to 3. Above 1500 m, the simulation under predicts the measurements. Overall, the simulations and  
23 observations agree within their respective uncertainties.

24 The April 2015 campaign-mean shows a more gradual decrease with altitude (Figure 6, right panel). Both  
25 the simulated and measured DMS(g) profiles show less variability with altitude than in summer. As well,  
26 mixing ratios are greater than during the July campaign. Ozone depletion not represented by the  
27 simulation is one potential explanation for the underestimated DMS(g) in the simulations. Surface layers



1 depleted of ozone were observed on several occasions during April 2015: 3 of 5 samples collected at 60  
2 m above ice surfaces were concurrent with measured ozone depletion events (<1 ppbv) during the April  
3 campaign. If the DMS(g) oxidation potential is reduced by ozone depletion the lifetime of DMS(g) in the  
4 region of ozone depletion may increase. Another reason for underestimation by the model may be errors  
5 in the source strength.

6 We conducted a sensitivity simulation to identify the latitude-dependent contribution of the oceans to the  
7 simulated DMS(g) at the sampling points along the flight tracks. In Figure 6, the “SimZeroBelow66”  
8 simulation has no ocean DMS(g) for all latitudes south of 66°N. This simulation compared with the  
9 standard simulation suggests that a large majority of the campaign-mean DMS(g) for both April and July  
10 arises from the oceans north of 66°N.

11 As given in Table 2, the ‘SimZeroBelow66’ simulates 97% or more of the DMS(g) below 500 m during  
12 July coming from waters north of 66°N. The fractional contribution from north of 66° is about 90% for  
13 April and at the same altitudes; although different regions were sampled at that time. The simulations  
14 attribute about 60% and 90% of the DMS(g) at altitudes from 500-3000 m to seawater north of 66°N in  
15 April and July, respectively. This 30% difference indicates a greater contribution from long-range  
16 transport from lower latitudes in the springtime.

17

## 18 **4.2 FLEXPART**

19 FLEXPART-ECMWF modeling was used to explore the origin of air mass back trajectories for the Polar  
20 6 flight tracks.

21 Figure 7 shows two examples of FLEXPART-ECMWF potential emissions sensitivity (PES) for 4-day  
22 back trajectories on July 2014: an influence from a broad area and especially Lancaster Sound (local  
23 region) and north on July 12<sup>th</sup> (Figure 7(a)), and Hudson Bay, and Baffin Bay (south) on July 19<sup>th</sup> (Figure  
24 7(b)). The PES analysis shows the air mass descended from >1500 m on July 19<sup>th</sup>, which may explain the  
25 lower DMS(g) mixing ratios.

26 Figure 8 shows some examples of FLEXPART-ECMWF PES simulations for 4-day back trajectories  
27 during April 2015. For the flights near Alert and Eureka on April 9 and 11, the potential emissions



1 originated from the northwest of Greenland (Figure 8(a) and Figure 8(b)). For the April 13 flight, the  
2 Norwegian Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean are additional potential source regions (Figure 8(c)), and  
3 for the April 20 flight near Inuvik, with the highest measured DMS mixing ratio, the potential emissions  
4 originated from North Pacific Ocean (Figure 8(d)). The April 20<sup>th</sup> flight was the only flight south of  
5 ~80°N during the springtime and showed a large influence from mid-latitudes.

6 In general, these results suggest that the DMS(g) measured during July 2014 originated primarily from  
7 the local region over Baffin Bay and the Canadian Arctic Archipelago. For spring 2015, the DMS(g)  
8 sampled was from a range of sources, including Baffin Bay, possibly the Norwegian Sea, the North  
9 Atlantic Ocean and the North Pacific Ocean.

10

## 11 **5 Conclusion**

12 Atmospheric samples for DMS(g) measurements were collected at different altitudes aboard the Polar 6  
13 aircraft expeditions during July 2014 and April 2015, as part of the NETCARE project. In this study, we  
14 present vertical profile measurements of DMS(g), together with model simulations to consider what these  
15 profiles indicate about Arctic DMS(g) sources and lifetimes. Vertical variations in DMS(g) mixing ratios  
16 will likely influence aerosol concentrations via new particle formation and growth, which could impact  
17 Earth's radiation budget.

18 Our measured vertical profiles of DMS(g) suggest differences between the main sources and lifetime of  
19 DMS(g) during the Arctic summer and spring. For the summertime flights near Lancaster Sound,  
20 Nunavut, Canada, DMS(g) mixing ratios were higher near the surface (maximum > 110 pptv) and lower  
21 at higher altitudes up to 3 km. The highest mixing ratios were found above ice edges and open waters  
22 suggesting that the Arctic Ocean in the vicinity of the aircraft was the main source of DMS(g). Oxidation  
23 and/or limited vertical mixing could contribute to the decline of DMS(g) mixing ratios with altitude.  
24 During the springtime pan-Arctic flights from Svalbard to the Canadian Arctic Archipelago and ending  
25 near Inuvik, Northwest Territories, the measured DMS(g) mixing ratios were unusually high (> 100 pptv),  
26 and more uniform with altitude than during summer. DMS(g) mixing ratios in samples collected in the  
27 free troposphere (>2000 m) during April ranged from 60-134 pptv. Transport of DMS(g) to the high-



1 Arctic from other regions of the Arctic and/or at lower latitudes with reduced oxidizing potential may  
2 explain these observations.

3 The DMS(g) vertical profile along the flight tracks was simulated with the GEOS-Chem chemical  
4 transport model. The measurement and simulated co-sampled campaign-mean DMS(g) vertical profile  
5 agreed within a factor of 3 for both July 2014 and April 2015. A sensitivity test indicated that the oceans  
6 north of 66°N contributed about 97% and 90% of simulated DMS(g) at altitudes below 500 m at the  
7 measurement sampling times in July and April, respectively. For the April flights, about 60% of the  
8 simulated DMS at altitudes between 500-3000 m was attributed to water north of 66°N. Potential emission  
9 sensitivity from FLEXPART analysis for the aircraft tracks showed that local sources (Lancaster Sound  
10 and Baffin Bay) primarily contributed to air sampled during July 2014. On the other hand, long-range  
11 transport (LRT) from the northern tip of Greenland of air that originated over the waters to the northwest  
12 of Greenland as well as the North Pacific Ocean were important contributors to air masses sampled during  
13 April 2015.

14 In short, this study suggests a dominant role of the Arctic Ocean for DMS(g) in the Arctic during summer,  
15 and a significant contribution from LRT to DMS(g) in spring.

16

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21 scientists. Data is available by email request ([alnorman@ucalgary.ca](mailto:alnorman@ucalgary.ca)). The GEOS-Chem model is freely  
22 available for download from [www.geos-chem.org](http://www.geos-chem.org).

23



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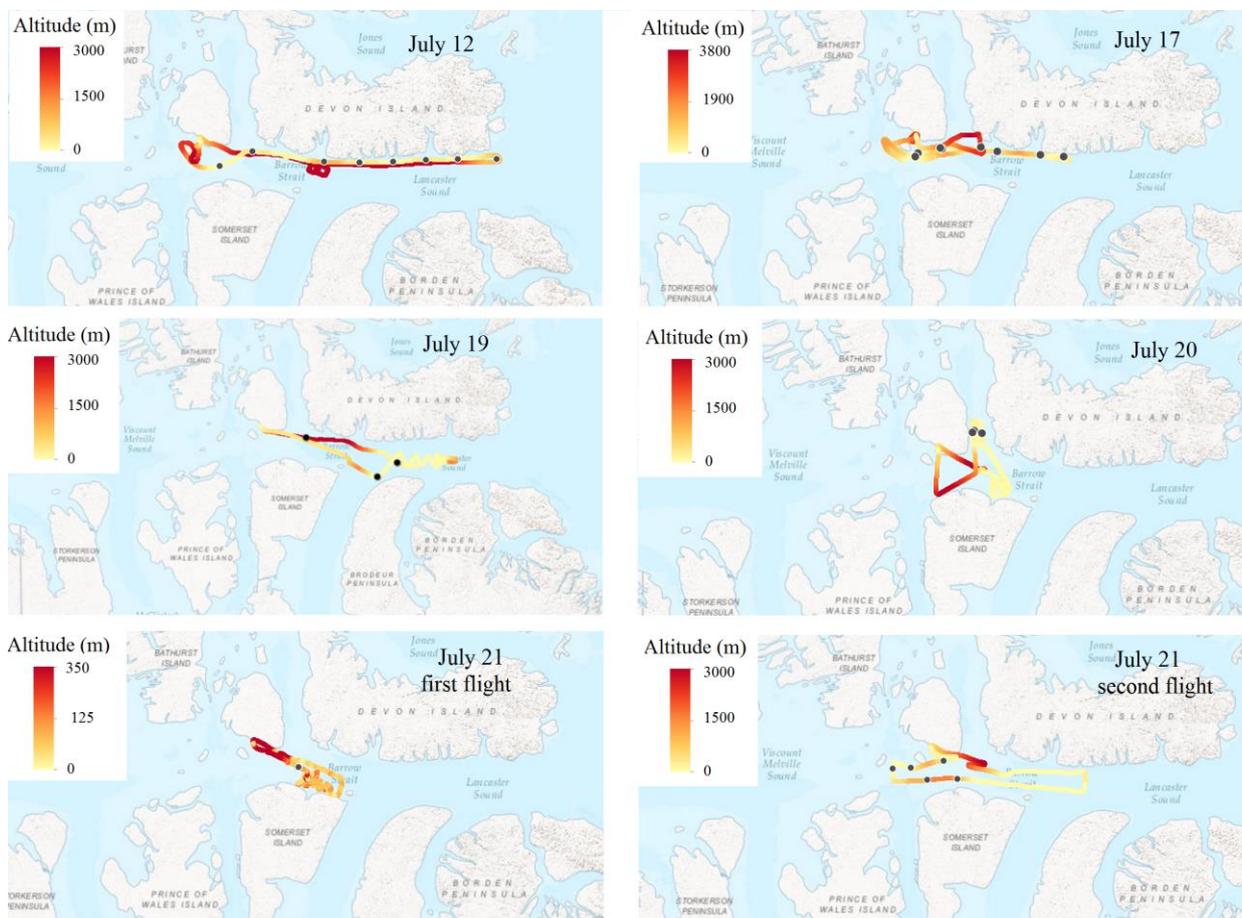


Figure 1. Polar 6 aircraft routes from 12 to 21 July 2014. Color bars indicate altitudes and sampling locations are shown with black dots.

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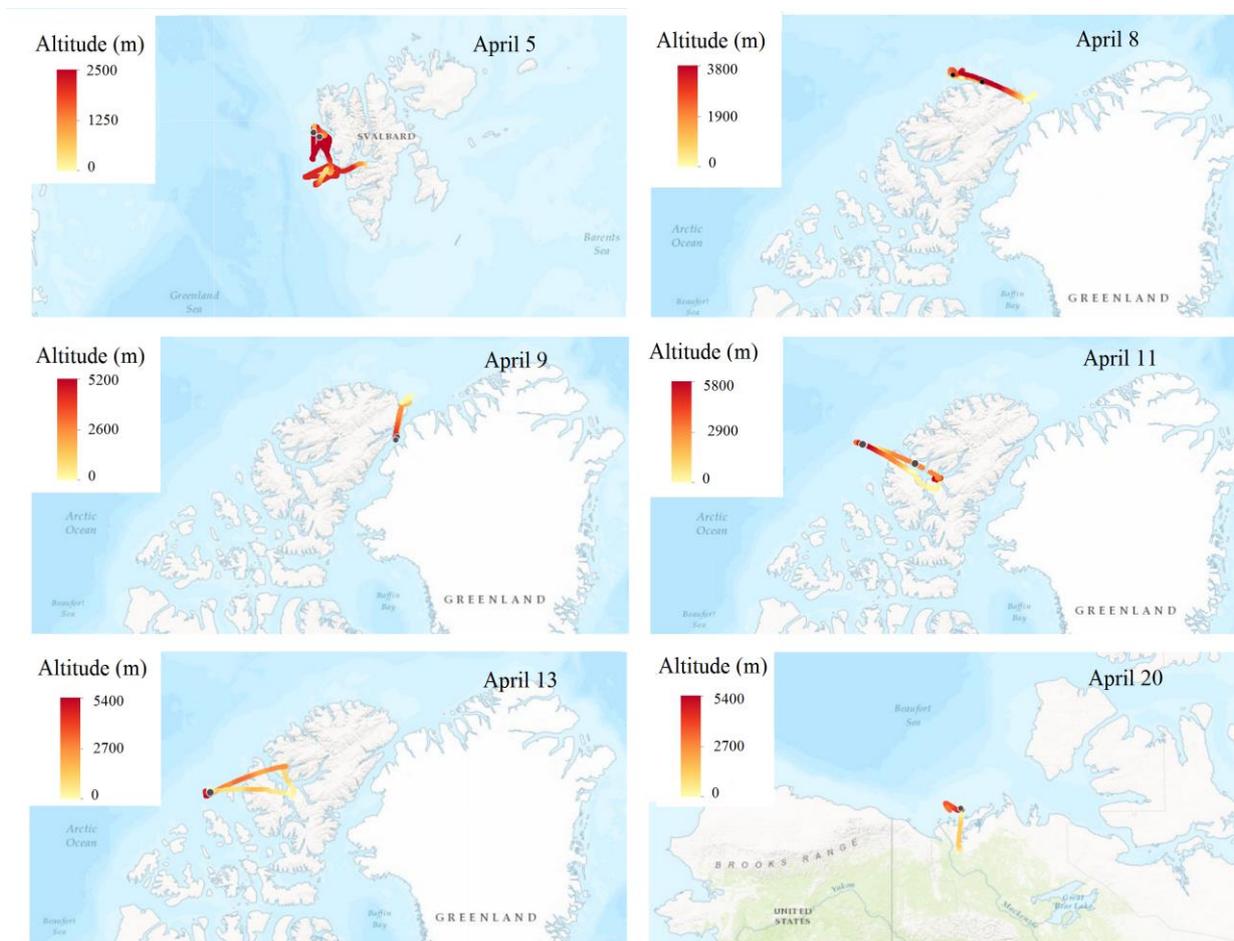


Figure 2. Polar 6 aircraft routes from 5 to 20 April 2015. Color bars indicate altitudes and sampling locations are shown with black dots.

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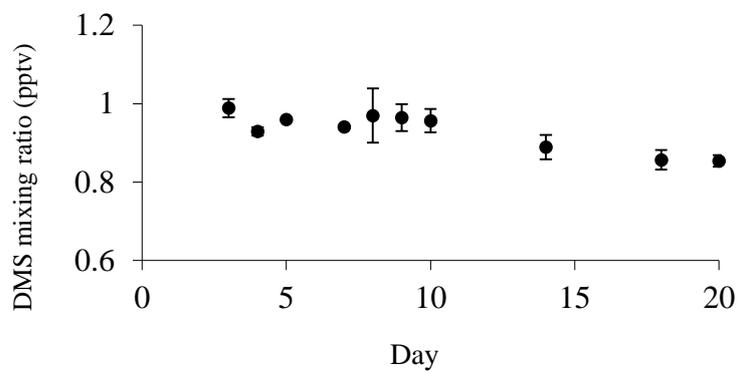


Figure 3. DMS mixing ratios versus Tenax storage days. Error bars indicate the standard deviation for each test.

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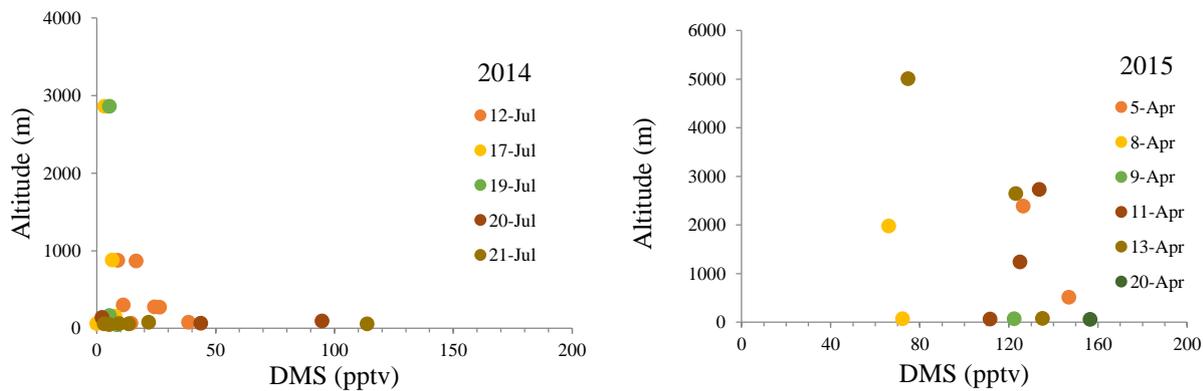


Figure 4. Sampling altitudes (m) versus DMS mixing ratios (pptv) for July 2014 (left panel) and April 2015 (right panel).

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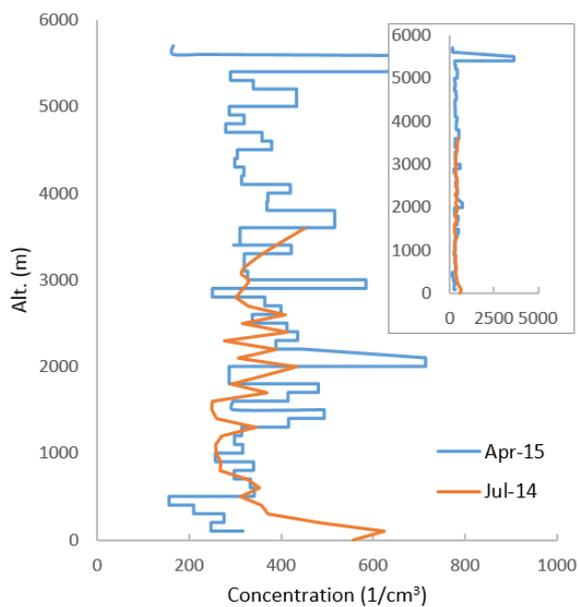
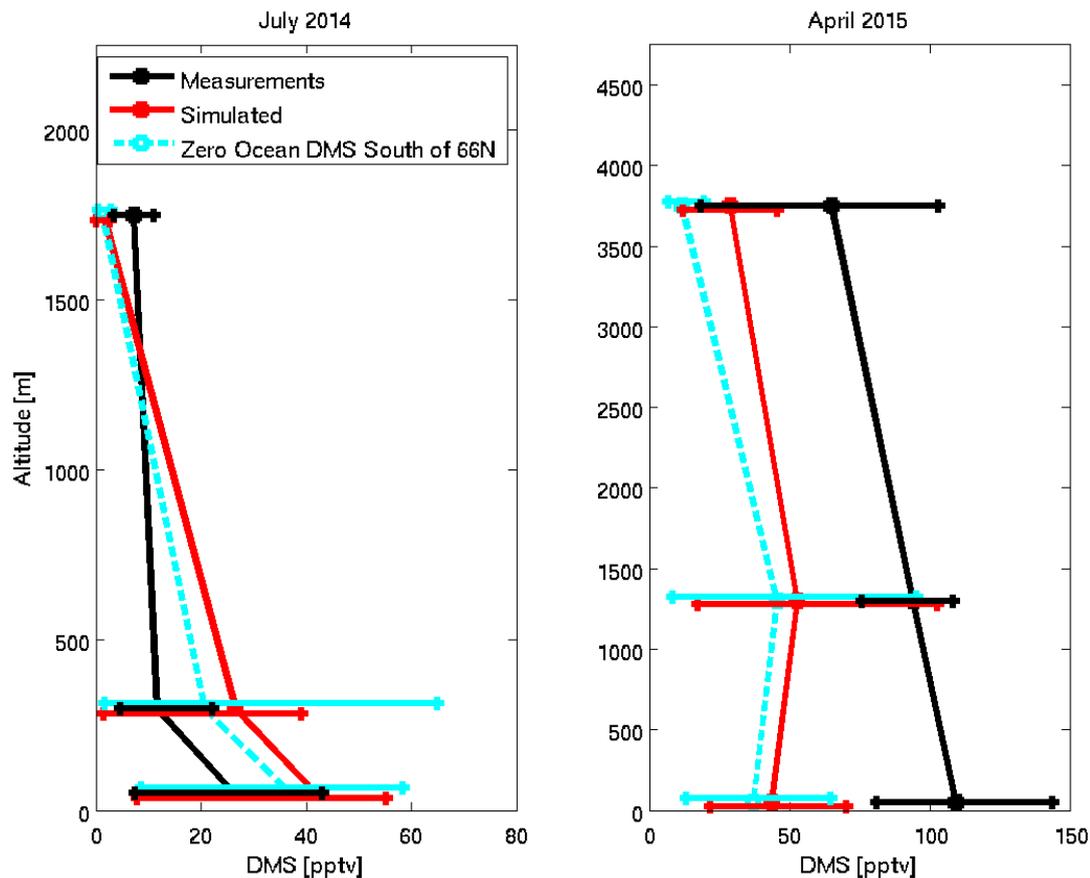


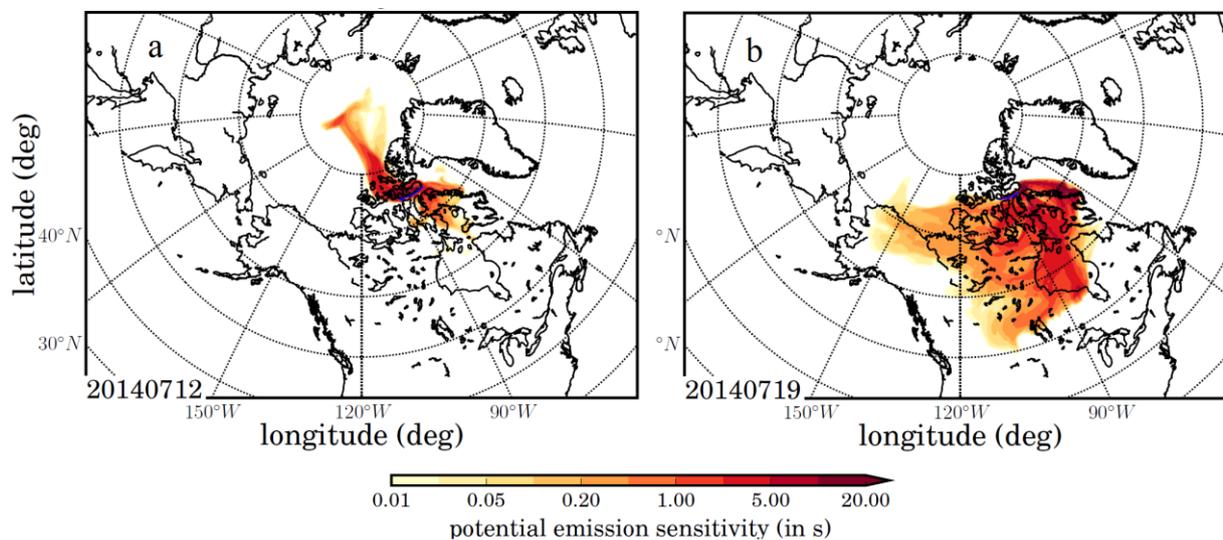
Figure 5. Average vertical profile of particle number concentration for July 2014 (orange), and April 2015 (blue).  
The insert shows a peak in concentration at high altitude (>5000 m) for April 2016.

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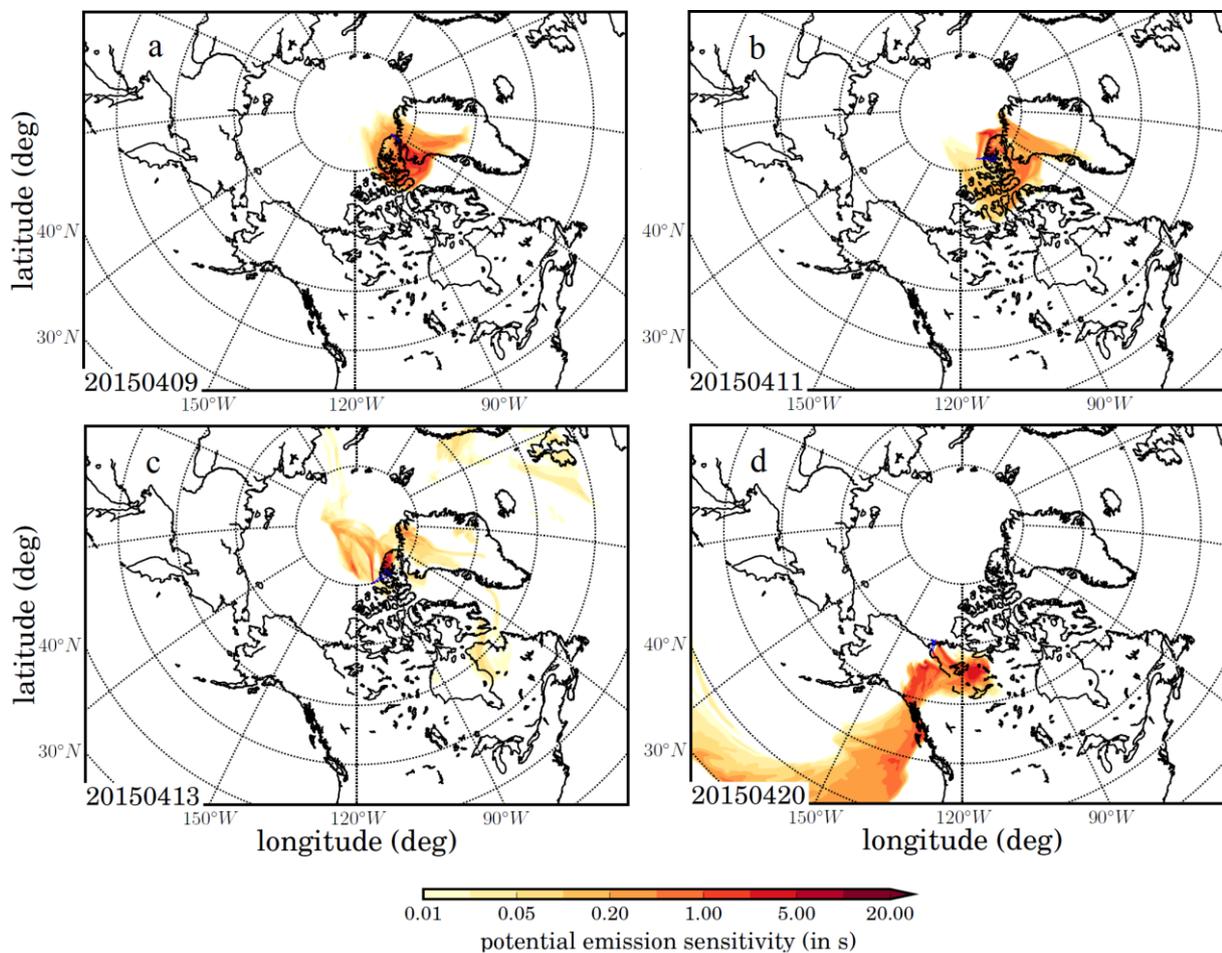
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2 Figure 6. The campaign-mean vertical profile of DMS from the GEOS-Chem simulation (red line) and  
3 measurements (black line) for July 2014 and April 2015. Simulations for zero ocean DMS at latitudes south of  
4 66°N (SimZeroBelow66) are shown as cyan dashed line. The 20<sup>th</sup> and 80<sup>th</sup> percentiles are shown by horizontal  
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Figure 7. FLEXPART-ECMWF potential emissions sensitivity simulation plots for 4-day back trajectories for column from 0 to 200 m on (a) July 12<sup>th</sup> (20:40:00 h UTC) and (b) July 19<sup>th</sup> (17:00:00 h UTC), 2014. The color bars indicate air mass residence time (seconds) before arriving at the aircraft location. The blue lines show Polar 6 aircraft routes.



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Figure 8. FLEXPART-ECMWF potential emissions sensitivity simulation plots for 4-day back trajectories for column from 0 to 200 m on (a) April 9<sup>th</sup> (14:45:00 h UTC), (b) April 11<sup>th</sup> (18:55:00 h UTC), (c) April 13<sup>th</sup> (18:27:00 h UTC), and (d) April 20<sup>th</sup> (22:26:00 h UTC), 2015. The color bars indicate air mass residence time (seconds) before arriving at the aircraft location. The blue lines show Polar 6 aircraft routes


 1 Table 1. DMS mixing ratio values, sampling and analysis dates for July 2014 and April 2015.
   
 2

Sample #	DMS (ppt)	Sampling Day	Analysis Day	Sample #	DMS (ppt)	Sampling Day	Analysis Day
1	17	12/07/2014	25/07/2014	20	2	20/07/2014	25/07/2014
2	39	12/07/2014	25/07/2014	21	22	21/07/2014	25/07/2014
3	26	12/07/2014	25/07/2014	22	5	21/07/2014	25/07/2014
4	14	12/07/2014	25/07/2014	23	3	21/07/2014	25/07/2014
5	24	12/07/2014	25/07/2014	24	13	21/07/2014	25/07/2014
6	9	12/07/2014	25/07/2014	25	114	21/07/2014	25/07/2014
7	11	12/07/2014	25/07/2014	26	9	21/07/2014	25/07/2014
8	6	12/07/2014	25/07/2014	27	127	05/04/2015	07/05/2015
9	5	17/07/2014	27/07/2014	28	147	05/04/2015	07/05/2015
10	8	17/07/2014	27/07/2014	29	66	08/04/2015	07/05/2015
11	8	17/07/2014	27/07/2014	30	72	08/04/2015	07/05/2015
12	6	17/07/2014	27/07/2014	31	122	09/04/2015	07/05/2015
13	6	17/07/2014	27/07/2014	32	134	11/04/2015	08/05/2015
14	3	17/07/2014	27/07/2014	33	112	11/04/2015	08/05/2015
15	5	19/07/2014	27/07/2014	34	125	11/04/2015	08/05/2015
16	5	19/07/2014	27/07/2014	35	75	13/04/2015	08/05/2015
17	9	19/07/2014	27/07/2014	36	123	13/04/2015	08/05/2015
18	44	20/07/2014	25/07/2014	37	135	13/04/2015	08/05/2015
19	95	20/07/2014	25/07/2014	38	157	20/04/2015	08/05/2015

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1 Table 2. Simulated campaign-mean percent contribution of DMS from oceans north of 66°N to the GEOS-Chem  
2 simulated DMS at the sampling locations for the July 2014 and April 2015 flight tracks.  
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Altitude	July 2014	April 2015
0-100 m	98	88
100-500 m	97	90
500-3000 m	91	61

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