

# Impacts of bromine and iodine chemistry on tropospheric OH and HO<sub>2</sub>: Comparing observations with box and global model perspectives

Daniel Stone,<sup>1</sup> Tomás Sherwen,<sup>2</sup> Mathew J. Evans,<sup>2,3</sup> Stewart Vaughan,<sup>1</sup> Trevor Ingham,<sup>1,4</sup>  
Lisa K. Whalley,<sup>1,4</sup> Peter M. Edwards,<sup>2</sup> Katie A. Read,<sup>2,3</sup> James D. Lee,<sup>2,3</sup> Sarah J. Moller,<sup>2,3</sup>  
Lucy J. Carpenter,<sup>2,3</sup> Alastair C. Lewis,<sup>2,3</sup> Dwayne E. Heard<sup>1,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> School of Chemistry, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK

<sup>2</sup> Wolfson Atmospheric Chemistry Laboratories, Department of Chemistry, University of York, York, UK

<sup>3</sup> National Centre for Atmospheric Science, University of York, York, UK

<sup>4</sup> National Centre for Atmospheric Science, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK

## Abstract

The chemistry of the halogen species bromine and iodine has a range of impacts on tropospheric composition, and can affect oxidising capacity in a number of ways. However, recent studies disagree on the overall sign of the impacts of halogens on the oxidising capacity of the troposphere. We present simulations of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> radicals for comparison with observations made in the remote tropical ocean boundary layer during the Seasonal Oxidant Study at the Cape Verde Atmospheric Observatory in 2009. We use both a constrained box model, using detailed chemistry derived from the Master Chemical Mechanism (v3.2), and the three-dimensional global chemistry transport model GEOS-Chem. Both model approaches reproduce the diurnal trends in OH and HO<sub>2</sub>. Absolute observed concentrations are well reproduced by the box model but are overpredicted by the global model, potentially owing to incomplete consideration of oceanic sourced radical sinks. The two models, however, differ in the impacts of halogen chemistry. In the box model, halogen chemistry acts to increase OH concentrations (by 9.8 % at midday at Cape Verde), while the global model exhibits a small increase in OH at Cape Verde (by 0.6 % at midday) but overall shows a decrease in the global annual mass weighted mean OH of 4.5 %. These differences reflect the variety of timescales through which the halogens impact the chemical system. On short timescales, photolysis of HOBr and HOI, produced by reactions of HO<sub>2</sub> with BrO and IO, respectively, increases the OH concentration. On longer timescales, halogen catalysed ozone destruction cycles lead to lower primary production of OH radicals through ozone photolysis, and thus to lower OH concentrations. The global model includes more of the longer timescale responses than the constrained box model and overall the global impact of the longer timescale response (reduced primary production due to lower O<sub>3</sub> concentrations) overwhelms the shorter timescale response (enhanced cycling from HO<sub>2</sub> to OH), and thus the global OH concentration decreases. The Earth system contains many such responses on a large range of timescales. This work highlights the care that needs to be taken to understand the full impact of any one process on the system as a whole.

## 36 **Introduction**

37 Halogen chemistry in the troposphere influences budgets of O<sub>3</sub>, HO<sub>x</sub> (OH and HO<sub>2</sub>), NO<sub>x</sub> (NO and NO<sub>2</sub>) (von  
38 Glasow et al., 2004; Saiz-Lopez and von Glasow, 2012; Simpson et al., 2015, Schmidt et al., 2016; Sherwen et  
39 al., 2016a; Sherwen et al., 2016b), affects the oxidation state of atmospheric mercury (Holmes et al., 2006; Holmes  
40 et al., 2010), and impacts aerosol formation (Hoffmann et al., 2001; O'Dowd et al., 2002; McFiggans et al., 2004;  
41 McFiggans et al., 2010; Mahajan et al., 2011; Sherwen et al., 2016c).

42  
43 The production of bromine and iodine atoms in the marine boundary layer (MBL) following emissions of  
44 organohalogen compounds and the inorganic compounds I<sub>2</sub> and HOI has been shown to result in considerable  
45 destruction of tropospheric ozone (Read et al., 2008), leading to the production of bromine monoxide (BrO) and  
46 iodine monoxide (IO) radicals. Observations of BrO and IO radicals within the MBL have demonstrated  
47 widespread impacts on atmospheric composition and chemistry (Alicke et al., 1999; Sander et al., 2003; Leser et  
48 al., 2003; Saiz-Lopez and Plane, 2004; Saiz-Lopez et al., 2004; Peters et al., 2005; Saiz-Lopez et al., 2006;  
49 Whalley et al., 2007; Mahajan et al., 2010a; Commane et al., 2011; Dix et al., 2013; Gomez Martin et al., 2013;  
50 Le Breton et al., 2017), including significant effects on HO<sub>x</sub> concentrations and on the HO<sub>2</sub>:OH ratio in coastal  
51 and marine locations (Bloss et al., 2005a; Sommariva et al., 2006; Bloss et al., 2007; Bloss et al., 2010; Kanaya  
52 et al., 2007; Whalley et al., 2010).

53  
54 The role of halogens in HO<sub>x</sub> chemistry was demonstrated during the NAMBLEX campaign in Mace Head,  
55 Ireland, (Heard et al., 2006), following several studies which attributed box model overestimates of HO<sub>2</sub>  
56 observations in marine environments to unmeasured halogen monoxides (Carslaw et al., 1999; Carslaw et al.,  
57 2002; Kanaya et al., 2001; Kanaya et al., 2002; Kanaya et al., 2007). Simultaneous measurements of OH and HO<sub>2</sub>  
58 by laser-induced fluorescence (LIF) (Bloss et al., 2005a; Smith et al., 2006) and halogen species by a combination  
59 of DOAS (for BrO or IO, OIO and I<sub>2</sub>) (Saiz-Lopez et al., 2006) and broadband cavity ringdown spectroscopy  
60 (BBCRDS) (for OIO and I<sub>2</sub>) (Bitter et al., 2005) during NAMBLEX enabled box model calculations to fully  
61 explore the impacts of halogens on the local composition. A box model without halogen chemistry was able to  
62 reproduce the NAMBLEX OH observations to within 25 %, but HO<sub>2</sub> observations were overestimated by up to a  
63 factor of 2 (Sommariva et al., 2006). The introduction of halogen chemistry, using DOAS measurements of BrO  
64 and IO (Saiz-Lopez et al., 2006) to constrain the model, increased the modelled OH concentrations by up to 15  
65 % and decreased HO<sub>2</sub> by up to 30 % owing to reactions of HO<sub>2</sub> with XO radicals to form HOX which subsequently  
66 photolysed to X + OH (Sommariva et al., 2006). Bloss et al., (2005a) indicated that up to 40 % of the instantaneous  
67 HO<sub>2</sub> loss could be attributed to HO<sub>2</sub> + IO, and that photolysis of HOI was responsible for 15 % of the noontime  
68 OH production.

69 The impacts of halogen chemistry on HO<sub>x</sub> radicals at a site representative of the open ocean have been investigated  
70 at the Cape Verde Atmospheric Observatory (CVAO). Measurements of halogen monoxides (Mahajan et al.,  
71 2010a) at the site have been shown to have significant impacts on local ozone concentrations, notably in the  
72 magnitude of the daily cycle (Read et al., 2008), and have been used to constrain box model calculations used to  
73 explore observations of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> made during the RHaMBLe campaign in 2007 (Whalley et al., 2010). The  
74 model calculations showed generally good comparisons with the observed OH and HO<sub>2</sub> concentrations, apart  
75 from a period characterised by unusually high concentrations of HCHO. Compared to a model run in which  
76 halogen chemistry was absent, bromine and iodine chemistry led to a 9 % increase in the modelled OH  
77 concentration (Whalley et al., 2010). Owing to the dominance of the tropics in global methane oxidation (Bloss  
78 et al., 2005b), such an impact of halogens on OH could have significant consequences for estimates of global  
79 methane lifetimes, and on our understanding of the impacts of halogen chemistry on climate change.

80  
81 In general, observationally constrained box model simulations suggest that halogens in the troposphere will  
82 increase OH concentrations, primarily because of a change in the HO<sub>2</sub> to OH ratio occurring as a result of reactions  
83 of halogen oxides (XO) with HO<sub>2</sub> to produce a hypohalous acid (HOX) which photolyses to give an OH radical  
84 and a halogen atom (Kanaya et al., 2002; Bloss et al., 2005a; Kanaya et al., 2007; Sommariva et al., 2006;  
85 Sommariva et al., 2007; Whalley et al., 2010). Other impacts on the HO<sub>x</sub> photochemical system are observed  
86 (impacts from changes to NO<sub>x</sub> chemistry etc.) but these are minor and overall the general conclusion is that the  
87 halogen chemistry tends to increase the OH concentration and thus the oxidising capacity of the atmosphere.

88  
89 However, the observationally constrained studies are typically concerned with processes occurring at the surface,  
90 and in a single location. The role of halogen chemistry in the troposphere as a whole is more uncertain, particularly  
91 in the free troposphere and on a global scale (Saiz-Lopez and von Glasow, 2012; Simpson et al., 2015). Inclusion  
92 of bromine chemistry in the three-dimensional (3D) chemistry transport model (CTM) MATCH-HPIC resulted  
93 in decreases in tropospheric ozone concentrations of ~18 % over widespread areas, with regional decreases of up  
94 to 40 % (von Glasow et al., 2004). Increases of more than 20 % were found for OH in the free troposphere, but,  
95 globally, changes to OH were dominated by decreases in OH in the tropics owing to a reduction in primary  
96 production from O<sub>3</sub> photolysis, leading to a decrease of 1-2 % in the global mean OH concentration (von Glasow  
97 et al., 2004).

98  
99 Significant decreases in tropospheric ozone (up to 30% at high latitude spring) were also reported for the  
100 pTOMCAT model on inclusion of bromine chemistry (Yang et al., 2005). The CAM-Chem global chemistry-  
101 climate model has shown an approximate 10 % decrease in global mean tropospheric ozone concentration on

102 incorporation of lower bromine emissions (Saiz-Lopez et al., 2012), while the GEOS-Chem CTM displays a  
103 global decrease of 6.5 % (Parrella et al., 2012). The GEOS-Chem model indicated that bromine-catalysed loss  
104 of ozone is limited by the rate of production of HOBr, and that HO<sub>2</sub> + BrO is responsible for over 95 % of the  
105 global tropospheric HOBr production. While HOBr can act as a source of OH on photolysis, the changes to O<sub>3</sub>  
106 and NO<sub>x</sub> resulting from the inclusion of bromine chemistry in GEOS-Chem led to a 4 % decrease overall in the  
107 global annual mean OH (Parrella et al., 2012).

108  
109 Vertically resolved airborne measurements of IO radicals in the free troposphere over the Pacific Ocean have also  
110 demonstrated a role for iodine chemistry throughout the free troposphere, with IO observed at a mixing ratio of  
111 ~0.1 ppt in the free troposphere and found to be present in both recent deep convective outflow and aged free  
112 tropospheric air (Dix et al., 2013). Model simulations to investigate iodine-driven ozone destruction throughout  
113 the troposphere indicated that only 34 % of the total iodine-driven ozone loss occurs within the marine boundary  
114 layer, with 40 % occurring in a transition layer and 26 % in the free troposphere (Dix et al., 2013).

115  
116 The CAM-Chem and GEOS-Chem models have also been updated to encompass iodine chemistry, with results  
117 from CAM-Chem showing iodine chemistry to be responsible for 17-27 % of the ozone loss in the tropical MBL  
118 and 11-27 % of the ozone loss in the marine upper troposphere (Saiz-Lopez et al., 2014). The GEOS-Chem model  
119 also showed iodine chemistry to be responsible for significant ozone destruction throughout the troposphere  
120 (Sherwen et al., 2016a; Sherwen et al., 2016b; Sherwen et al., 2017). The GEOS-Chem simulations, which  
121 incorporate chlorine, bromine and iodine chemistry, show a reduction in global tropospheric ozone concentration  
122 of 18.6 %, compared to simulations with no halogen chemistry, a reduction in the global mean OH of 8.2 % to a  
123 concentration of  $1.28 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  and a resulting increase in global methane lifetime of 10.8 % to 8.28 years  
124 (Sherwen et al., 2016b).

125  
126 There is thus a discrepancy between box and global models as to the impact of halogen chemistry on OH  
127 concentrations in the troposphere. Box models suggesting that OH radical concentrations should increase and  
128 thus that halogens tend to increase the oxidising capacity, whereas the global models tend to suggest the opposite.

129  
130 In this work, we use both a detailed chemical box model approach and a global chemistry-transport model to  
131 investigate the local and global impacts of halogen chemistry on HO<sub>x</sub> radical concentrations. We focus on  
132 seasonal HO<sub>x</sub> observations available from the Cape Verde Atmospheric Observatory (Vaughan et al., 2012). We  
133 first provide a summary of the measurement site and the observations, followed by details of the two models used

134 in this study. We then evaluate the impact of halogens on the concentrations of oxidants in the two modelling  
135 frameworks and consider the impact of halogen chemistry on global oxidising capacity.

## 137 **The Cape Verde Atmospheric Observatory**

138 The Cape Verde Atmospheric Observatory is situated on the north east coast of the island of Sao Vicente (16.848  
139 °N, 24.871 °W), approximately 500 km off the west coast of Africa. The observatory is in a region of high marine  
140 biological production, and, for 95 % of the time, receives the prevailing northeasterly trade wind directly off the  
141 ocean (Read et al., 2008; Carpenter et al., 2010). Measurements at the observatory are considered to be  
142 representative of the open ocean, and CO, O<sub>3</sub>, VOCs, NO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>y</sub> have been measured near-continuously at the  
143 observatory since October 2006 (Lee et al., 2009; Carpenter et al., 2010).

144  
145 In 2007, the observatory was host to the RHaMBLe intensive field campaign, during which a number of additional  
146 measurements were made to complement the long-term measurements at the site (Lee et al., 2010), including LP-  
147 DOAS measurements of halogen species (Read et al., 2008; Mahajan et al., 2010a) and formaldehyde (Mahajan  
148 et al., 2010b), and LIF-FAGE measurements of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> (Whalley et al., 2010). The halogen monooxide  
149 radicals BrO and IO exhibited a ‘top-hat’ diurnal cycle (Vogt et al., 1999; Vogt et al., 1996; Read et al., 2008;  
150 Mahajan et al., 2010a) with essentially zero concentration in the hours of darkness and generally constant values  
151 of approximately 2.5 ppt BrO and 1.4 ppt IO during the day.

152  
153 The RHaMBLe campaign was followed by the Seasonal Oxidants Study (SOS) in 2009, during which  
154 measurements of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> were conducted over three periods (Feb-March (SOS1), May-June (SOS2), and  
155 September (SOS3)), and are discussed in detail by Vaughan et al. (2012). We present here the results from a  
156 modelling study of the HO<sub>x</sub> measurements made during SOS1 and SOS2, when supporting measurements are  
157 available, using both box and global model approaches. SOS3 is not considered in this work owing to a lack of  
158 supporting measurements.

159  
160 Measurements of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> during the Seasonal Oxidant Study were made by laser-induced fluorescence (LIF)  
161 spectroscopy at low pressure using the fluorescence assay by gas expansion (FAGE) technique, and are described  
162 in detail by Vaughan et al. (2012). Briefly, ambient air is drawn into a fluorescence cell situated on the roof of a  
163 shipping container and maintained at pressures of ~ 2 Torr. The fluorescence cell has two excitation axes, with  
164 excess NO added at the second axis to titrate HO<sub>2</sub> to OH, enabling simultaneous detection of OH and HO<sub>2</sub>. OH  
165 radicals in both excitation axes are excited by laser light at  $\lambda \sim 308$  nm, generated by frequency tripling the output

of a solid state Nd:YAG pumped Ti:Sapphire laser system (Bloss et al., 2003). Channel photomultiplier tubes coupled to gated photon counters are used to detect the  $A^2\Sigma^+ - X^2\Pi$ ; OH fluorescence signal at  $\lambda \sim 308$  nm.

Calibration of the instrument is achieved by measurement of the fluorescence signal from known concentrations of OH and HO<sub>2</sub>, produced by the photolysis of water vapour, and was performed over a range of conditions before, during and after the campaign. For OH, the 1  $\sigma$  limit of detection (LOD) was in the range  $(2-11) \times 10^5$  cm<sup>-3</sup> for a 5 min averaging period, while for HO<sub>2</sub> 1  $\sigma$  LOD was in the range  $(6-13) \times 10^5$  cm<sup>-3</sup> for a 4 min averaging period. Uncertainties (2  $\sigma$ ) in the measurements of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> are  $\sim 32$  % (Vaughan et al., 2012).

Potential interferences in HO<sub>2</sub> measurements arising from conversion of alkene- and aromatic-derived peroxy radicals to OH within the LIF detection cell, as described by Fuchs et al. (2011), are expected to be small for this work owing to relatively low concentrations of alkenes and aromatics at the Cape Verde observatory (Carpenter et al., 2010; Vaughan et al., 2012). Speciation of the peroxy radicals in the box model output (see Supplementary Material) shows that 87.4 % of the peroxy radicals are HO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, 6.5 % CH<sub>3</sub>C(O)O<sub>2</sub> and 1.1 % C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, all of which display no HO<sub>2</sub> interference in the laboratory (Whalley et al., 2013; Stone et al., 2014). Peroxy radicals derived from OH-initiated oxidation of ethene and propene (HOC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and HOC<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, respectively) were found to result in an interference signal for HO<sub>2</sub> in the laboratory ( $\sim 40$  % for the experimental configuration in this work) but each radical comprises only  $\sim 0.6$  % of the total RO<sub>2</sub> in this work. Thus, model calculations reported here do not include representation of potential HO<sub>2</sub> interferences, although such phenomena may be important in other environments (see for example, Whalley et al., 2013; Stone et al., 2014).

## Model Approaches

We interpret the observations using two different modeling frameworks. The first is an observationally constrained box model (DSMACC), the second is a global tropospheric chemistry transport model (GEOS-Chem).

### Constrained Box Model

The Dynamically Simple Model of Atmospheric Chemical Complexity (DSMACC) is described in detail by Emmerson and Evans (2009) and Stone et al. (2010), and is a zero-dimensional model using the Kinetic Pre-Processor (KPP) (Sandu and Sander, 2006). In this work we use a chemistry scheme based on a subsection of the hydrocarbons (ethane, propane, *iso*-butane, *n*-butane, *iso*-pentane, *n*-pentane, hexane, ethene, propene, 1-butene, acetylene, isoprene, toluene, benzene, methanol, acetone, acetaldehyde and DMS) available from the Master Chemical Mechanism version 3.2 (MCM v3.2 <http://mcm.leeds.ac.uk/MCM/home.htm>) (Jenkin et al., 2003;

199 Saunders et al., 2003), with a halogen chemistry scheme described by Saiz-Lopez et al. (2006), Whalley et al.  
200 (2010) and Edwards et al. (2011). We also include the reaction between OH and CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (Bossolasco et al., 2014;  
201 Fittschen et al., 2014; Assaf et al., 2016; Yan et al., 2016), with a rate coefficient of  $1.6 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  (Assaf et  
202 al., 2016) and products HO<sub>2</sub> + CH<sub>3</sub>O (Assaf et al., 2017), the impact of which on the HO<sub>2</sub>:OH ratio and CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>  
203 budget is described in the Supplementary Material. The total number of species in the model is ~1200, with ~5000  
204 reactions. The full chemistry scheme used in the model is given in the Supplementary Data.

205  
206 All measurements are merged onto a 10 minute timebase for input to the model and the model is run with  
207 constraints applied as discussed in our previous work (Stone et al., 2010; Stone et al., 2011; Stone et al., 2014).  
208 Concentrations of CH<sub>4</sub> and H<sub>2</sub> are kept constant at values of 1770 ppb (NOAA CMDL flask analysis,  
209 <ftp://ftp.cmdl.noaa.gov/ccg/ch4/>) and 550 ppb (Ehhalt and Rohrer, 2009; Novelli et al., 1999) respectively.  
210 Formaldehyde measurements were not available during the SOS and we thus use HCHO concentrations generated  
211 by the chemistry in the model, with the modelled HCHO concentrations in broad agreement with previous  
212 measurements at the observatory (Mahajan et al., 2010b). Table 1 shows a summary of the input parameters to  
213 the model.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Range</b>
<b>O<sub>3</sub> / ppb</b>	33.8 ± 8.6	30.7	19.6 – 49.7
<b>CO / ppb</b>	102.3 ± 10.3	99.3	87.8 – 127.3
<b>H<sub>2</sub>O / ppm</b>	20542.3 ± 2753.8	21290.0	16778.5 – 24909.2
<b>NO / ppt</b>	11.2 ± 10.6	9.0	0.06 – 96.2
<b>Ethane / ppt</b>	961.3 ± 289.4	864.0	625.4 – 1799.2
<b>Propane / ppt</b>	136.1 ± 87.05	111.8	20.2 – 521.5
<i>iso</i> -butane / ppt	13.4 ± 9.8	11.1	0 – 62.7
<i>n</i> -butane / ppt	21.9 ± 17.6	17.8	0 – 112.9
<b>Acetylene / ppt</b>	79.0 ± 27.8	70.4	45.0 – 180.5
<b>Isoprene / ppt</b>	0.1 ± 0.4	0	0 – 2.6
<i>iso</i> -pentane / ppt	3.9 ± 3.2	3.3	0 – 22.9
<i>n</i> -pentane / ppt	4.3 ± 3.0	3.9	0 – 21.7
<i>n</i> -hexane / ppt	1.0 ± 0.7	0.9	0 – 4.4
<b>Ethene / ppt</b>	43.6 ± 15.2	46.3	6.4 – 73.2
<b>Propene / ppt</b>	13.5 ± 3.6	13.0	6.2 – 24.1
<b>But-1-ene / ppt</b>	6.5 ± 1.4	6.3	3.5 – 10.6
<b>Benzene / ppt</b>	13.0 ± 17.0	8.3	0 – 64.4
<b>Toluene / ppt</b>	77.9 ± 388.8	0	0 – 2013.9
<b>Acetaldehyde / ppt</b>	511.8 ± 526.0	599.3	0 – 2622.6
<b>Methanol / ppt</b>	247.6 ± 336.2	173.3	0 – 3337.4
<b>DMS / ppt</b>	8.3 ± 38.3	0	0 – 291.8

Table 1: Summary of inputs to the model. Zero values indicate measurements below the limit of detection. Further details can be found in Vaughan et al. (2012) and Carpenter et al. (2010).



224 Deposition processes, including dry deposition and wet deposition, and diffusion are represented in the model by  
225 a first-order loss process, with the first-order rate coefficient equivalent to a lifetime of approximately 24 hours.  
226 As discussed by Stone et al. (2010), variation of the deposition lifetime between 1 hour and 5 days results in  
227 limited changes to the modelled concentrations of OH and HO<sub>2</sub>. Loss of reactive species to aerosol surfaces is  
228 represented in the model by parameterisation of a first-order loss process to the aerosol surface (Schwarz, 1986),  
229 as discussed by Stone et al. (2014).

230  
231 A range of aerosol uptake coefficients for HO<sub>2</sub> have been reported in the literature, with recent measurements  
232 indicating values of  $\gamma_{\text{HO}_2}$  between 0.003 and 0.02 on aqueous aerosols (George et al., 2013) while others have  
233 reported values of  $\gamma_{\text{HO}_2} \sim 0.1$  (Taketani et al., 2008), and increased uptake coefficients in the presence of Cu and  
234 Fe ions (Thornton et al., 2008; Mao et al., 2013). In this work we use a value of  $\gamma_{\text{HO}_2} = 0.1$  in order to maintain  
235 consistency with previous modelling studies at the site (Whalley et al., 2010) and to account for potential impacts  
236 of ions of copper and iron in aerosol particles influenced by mineral dust (Carpenter et al., 2010; Muller et al.,  
237 2010; Fomba et al., 2014; Matthews et al., 2014; Lakey et al., 2015).

238  
239 The aerosol surface area in the model is constrained to previous measurements of dry aerosol surface area at the  
240 observatory, corrected for differences in sampling height between the aerosol and HO<sub>x</sub> measurements and for  
241 aerosol growth under humid conditions (Allan et al., 2009; Muller et al., 2010; Whalley et al., 2010).

242  
243 Halogen species are constrained to a ‘top-hat’ profiles for BrO and IO (Vogt et al., 1999; Vogt et al., 1996; Read  
244 et al., 2008), as observed during the RHAMBLE campaign in 2007 (Read et al., 2008; Mahajan et al., 2010a).  
245 The observations indicate that while there is day to day variation in BrO and IO concentrations, there is little  
246 seasonal variation (Mahajan et al., 2010a). BrO and IO are thus constrained to the mean observed mixing ratios  
247 of 2.5 ppt and 1.4 ppt, respectively, for time points between 0930 and 1830 (GMT) and zero for all other times.  
248 Sensitivity to these mixing ratios is discussed in the Supplementary Material. In a similar way to NO<sub>x</sub> (see Stone  
249 et al. (2010; 2011)), concentrations of all bromine or iodine species, including BrO and IO, are permitted to vary  
250 according to the photochemistry as the model runs forwards. At the end of each 24 hour period in the model, the  
251 calculated concentrations of BrO and IO are compared to the constrained value, and the concentrations of all  
252 bromine (Br, Br<sub>2</sub>, BrO, HBr, HOBr, BrONO<sub>2</sub>, BrNO<sub>2</sub>, BrNO) and iodine (I, I<sub>2</sub>, IO, HI, HOI, INO, INO<sub>2</sub>, IONO<sub>2</sub>,  
253 OIO, I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, HOIO<sub>2</sub>) species are fractionally increased or decreased such that the calculated and  
254 constrained concentrations of BrO and IO are the same. The model is run forwards in time with diurnally varying  
255 photolysis rates until a diurnal steady state is reached, typically requiring between 5 and 10 days.

## 257 **Global Model**

258 We use the 3D global chemistry transport model GEOS-Chem (v10-01, [www.geos-chem.org](http://www.geos-chem.org)). The model has  
259 been extensively evaluated against observations (Bey et al., 2001; Evans and Jacob, 2005; Nassar et al., 2009;  
260 Mao et al., 2010; Zhang et al., 2010; Parrella et al., 2012; Hu et al., 2017). The model is driven by assimilated  
261 winds calculated by the Goddard Earth Observing System at a horizontal resolution of  $4^\circ \times 5^\circ$ , with 47 vertical  
262 levels from the surface to 50 hPa. Anthropogenic emissions of CO, NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> are described by the EDGAR  
263 3.2 monthly global inventory (Olivier et al., 2005). Emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are  
264 described by the RETRO monthly global inventory (van het Bolscher, 2008) for anthropogenic sources, with  
265 ethane emissions described by Xiao et al., 2008, and the MEGAN v2.1 inventory (Guenther et al., 2006; Barkley  
266 et al., 2011) for biogenic sources.

267  
268 The HO<sub>x</sub>-NO<sub>x</sub>-VOC-O<sub>3</sub> chemistry scheme in the model is described in detail by Bey et al. (2001) and Mao et al.  
269 (2013), with the isoprene oxidation mechanism described by Paulot et al. (2009). Photolysis rates use the FAST-  
270 JX scheme (Bian and Prather, 2002; Mao et al., 2010), with acetone photolysis rates updated by Fischer et al.  
271 (2012). Stratospheric chemistry is based on LINOZ McLinden et al. (2000) for O<sub>3</sub> and a linearised mechanism  
272 for other species as described by Murray et al. (2012).

273  
274 The model framework includes gas-aerosol partitioning of semi-volatile organic compounds (Liao et al., 2007;  
275 Henze et al., 2007; Henze et al., 2009; Fu et al., 2008; Heald et al., 2011; Wang et al., 2011), and heterogeneous  
276 chemistry (Jacob, 2000). Coupling between gas phase chemistry and sulfate-ammonium-nitrate aerosol is  
277 described by Park et al. (2004) and Pye et al. (2009). A description of dust aerosol in the model is given by Fairlie  
278 et al. (2007). Treatment of sea salt aerosol is described by Jaegle et al. (2011). The uptake coefficient for N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>  
279 uses the parameterisation by Evans and Jacob (2005), while that for HO<sub>2</sub> uses the parameterisation of Thornton  
280 et al. (2008). A full description of the organic aerosol chemistry in the model is given by Heald et al. (2011).

281  
282 The model includes recent updates to the chemistry scheme to include bromine chemistry (Parella et al., 2012;  
283 Schmidt et al., 2016) and iodine chemistry (Sherwen et al., 2016a; Sherwen et al., 2016b). Sources of tropospheric  
284 bromine in the model include emissions of CHBr<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub>Br, and transport of reactive bromine from  
285 the stratosphere. Debromination of sea-salt aerosol is not included in the model following the work of Schmidt et  
286 al. (2016), which showed better agreement with observations of BrO made by the GOME-2 satellite (Theys et al.,  
287 2011) and in the free troposphere and the tropical Eastern Pacific MBL (Gomez Martin et al., 2013; Volkamer et  
288 al., 2015; Wang et al., 2015). Emission rates and bromine chemistry included in the model are described in detail  
289 by Parella et al. (2012), with the bromine chemistry scheme described by 19 bimolecular reactions, 2 three-body

290 reactions and 2 heterogeneous reactions using rate coefficients, heterogeneous reaction coefficients and photolysis  
291 cross-sections recommended by Sander et al. (2011).

292  
293 Iodine sources include emissions of CH<sub>3</sub>I, CH<sub>2</sub>I<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>ICl, CH<sub>2</sub>IBr, I<sub>2</sub> and HOI. Emissions for CH<sub>3</sub>I follow Bell  
294 et al. (2002), while those of other organic iodine species use parameterisations based on chlorophyll-a in the  
295 Tropics and constant oceanic and coastal fluxes in extratropical regions (Ordonez et al., 2012). Emissions of  
296 inorganic iodine species (HOI and I<sub>2</sub>) use the results of Carpenter et al. (2013), with oceanic iodide concentrations  
297 parameterised by MacDonald et al. (2014). The iodine chemistry scheme includes 26 unimolecular and  
298 bimolecular reactions, 3 three-body reactions, 21 photolysis reactions and 7 heterogeneous reactions, using  
299 recommendations by Atkinson et al. (2007) and Sander et al. (2011) where available. Full details are given by  
300 Sherwen et al. (2016a; 2016b).

301  
302 Photolysis rates of bromine and iodine compounds are calculated using the FAST-J radiative transfer model (Wild  
303 et al., 2000; Bian and Prather, 2002; Mao et al., 2010). Wet and dry deposition are determined as for the standard  
304 GEOS-Chem model (Liu et al., 2001; Wesely, 1989; Wang et al., 1998; Amos et al., 2012).

305  
306 The tropospheric chemistry scheme is integrated using the SMVGEAR solver (Jacobson and Turco, 1994; Bey et  
307 al., 2001). The model, provides hourly output at the site of the Cape Verde Atmospheric Observatory. Model  
308 simulations have been performed in the absence of halogens, with bromine chemistry, with iodine chemistry and  
309 with bromine and iodine chemistry combined. Each model simulation is run for two years, with the analysis  
310 performed on the second year (2009) and the first year discarded as model spin-up to enable evolution of long-  
311 lived species.

## 312 313 **Model Results**

314 We now investigate the impact of halogen chemistry on tropospheric oxidation at Cape Verde within our two  
315 modelling approaches.

### 316 317 **Constrained Box Model**

318 Figure 1 shows the observed and modelled time series for OH and HO<sub>2</sub> during SOS1 (February, March 2009) and  
319 SOS2 (May, June 2009). Observed concentrations of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> were typically higher in SOS2 than SOS1,  
320 reaching maximum values in SOS2 of  $\sim 9 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  OH and  $4 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  HO<sub>2</sub> (Vaughan et al., 2012). Similar  
321 concentrations were observed in May and June 2007 during the RHaMBLe campaign (Whalley et al., 2010), with  
322 a *t*-test indicating no statistically significant difference between the OH concentrations measured in May-June

2009 to those measured in May-June 2007 at the 95 % confidence level (Vaughan et al., 2012). Concentrations of HO<sub>2</sub> measured in May-June 2009 were significantly higher than those measured in May-June 2007 at the 95 % confidence level, but were within the 1σ day-to-day variability (Vaughan et al., 2012). Temperatures during SOS2 were typically higher than those during SOS1, with higher relative humidity during SOS2 (Vaughan et al., 2012). Air masses during SOS1 had strong contributions from Atlantic marine air and African coastal region, with polluted marine air and Saharan dust contributing ~ 20 % and 10 %, respectively, for the first half of the measurement period. Conditions during SOS2 were typically cleaner, with Atlantic marine air representing the major source, although coastal African air contributed ~ 40 % on some days. There was little influence from polluted air, dust or continental air (Vaughan et al., 2012). Analysis of the variance of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> during SOS indicated that ~70 % of the total variance could be explained by diurnal behaviour, with the remaining ~30 % related to changes in air mass.

Figure 1 shows the observed and modelled time series for OH and HO<sub>2</sub>, for model simulations with and without halogen chemistry. For SOS1, the box model overpredicts the OH and HO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at the start of the campaign (Julian days 59 and 61), but performs better for day 63, and captures both the observed diurnal profile and the observed concentrations. For SOS2, the box model tends to agree better with the observations for both OH and HO<sub>2</sub>. A day-by-day comparison between the models and the observations is shown in the Supplementary Material for days for which box model calculations were possible, which were limited by the availability of supporting data.

Figure 2 shows the point-by-point model performance for OH and HO<sub>2</sub> for all data points combined, and for SOS1 and SOS2 separately, for the full box model run including halogen chemistry. There is a tendency for overprediction of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> during SOS1 (slopes of modelled vs observed concentrations are  $(1.86 \pm 0.26)$  for OH and  $(1.66 \pm 0.21)$  for HO<sub>2</sub>), which is dominated by the model overpredictions on days 59 and 61, with better agreement observed during SOS2 (slopes of modelled vs observed concentrations are  $(1.11 \pm 0.15)$  for OH and  $(1.21 \pm 0.12)$  for HO<sub>2</sub>).

The measured and modelled average diurnal profiles of OH, HO<sub>2</sub> and the HO<sub>2</sub> to OH ratios are shown in Figure 3. At midday (1100-1300), the full model including halogen chemistry overpredicts OH by a median factor of 1.52 and HO<sub>2</sub> by a median factor of 1.21. A model run containing bromine chemistry but no iodine chemistry gave median midday overpredictions of 1.40 and 1.30 for OH and HO<sub>2</sub>, respectively, while a run containing iodine but not bromine gave equivalent median overpredictions of 1.50 and 1.26, respectively. With no halogen chemistry included in the model, the modelled OH decreases, giving a median overprediction at midday by a

356 factor of 1.37, while the modelled HO<sub>2</sub> increases, resulting in a median overprediction by a factor of 1.37 at  
357 midday.

358  
359 Thus the inclusion of halogens (bromine and iodine) in the box model changes the mean noon time OH and HO<sub>2</sub>  
360 concentrations by +9.8 % and -9.9 %, respectively. This impact of halogen chemistry is consistent in sign and  
361 magnitude with previous studies (Kanaya et al., 2002; Bloss et al., 2005a; Kanaya et al., 2007; Sommariva et al.,  
362 2006; Sommariva et al., 2007; Whalley et al., 2010).

363  
364 Figure 4 shows the mean midday total RO<sub>x</sub> budget (given the fast processing time between HO<sub>2</sub> and HOBr/HOI  
365 we identify the RO<sub>x</sub> family as OH, HO<sub>2</sub>, HOBr, HOI, RO and RO<sub>2</sub>) for the two measurement periods during SOS  
366 for model runs with and without halogens. These budgets are similar both between time periods (i.e. SOS1 vs  
367 SOS2) and for box model calculations with and without halogen chemistry. Radical production dominated by  
368 photolysis of ozone (~83 %), with photolysis of HCHO (~10 %), CH<sub>3</sub>CHO (~2 %) and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (~2 %) playing a  
369 significantly smaller role. Radical termination reactions were dominated by HO<sub>2</sub> + CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (~23 %), aerosol uptake  
370 of HO<sub>2</sub> (~21 %), HO<sub>2</sub> + HO<sub>2</sub> (~19 %), CH<sub>3</sub>C(O)O<sub>2</sub> + HO<sub>2</sub> (~8 %), and OH + HO<sub>2</sub> (~5 %). The inclusion of the  
371 reaction between OH and CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> reduces the importance of radical termination via HO<sub>2</sub> + CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (from ~26 %  
372 of the total to ~23 % of the total), but otherwise has little impact on the total radical removal owing to the expected  
373 production of HO<sub>2</sub> + CH<sub>3</sub>O (Assaf et al., 2017). Further details regarding the impact of the reaction between OH  
374 and CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> on the HO<sub>2</sub>:OH ratio and CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> budget are given in the Supplementary Material.

375  
376 The budget analyses for SOS are consistent with those determined for the RHaMBLe campaign (Whalley et al.,  
377 2010; Fittschen et al., 2014; Assaf et al., 2017), reflecting similarities in observed concentrations of long-lived  
378 species and the method of the model constraint with observed O<sub>3</sub> concentrations and photolysis rates. The primary  
379 source of radicals therefore remains fixed in all simulations, with the primary sinks for these species occurring  
380 through radical-radical reactions. Thus, the total radical concentration and budget is little impacted by the  
381 presence of halogens.

382  
383 However, the partitioning of the radicals is impacted by the halogens. Without halogens the average midday  
384 (1100-1300) HO<sub>2</sub> to OH ratio is (83.4 ± 15.4) (median = 82.7), with the halogens this changes to (68.3 ± 13.6)  
385 (median = 66.9) (Table 2). This change in partitioning is mainly due to the reaction of HO<sub>2</sub> with BrO and IO  
386 followed by the photolysis of HOBr and HOI to give OH. In this way the halogens tend to reduce the concentration  
387 of HO<sub>2</sub> and increase the concentration of OH.

	HO <sub>2</sub> :OH ratio
Observed	79.1 ± 34.1 (70.7)
Box model, no halogens	83.4 ± 15.4 (82.7)
Box model with Br chemistry	78.9 ± 15.6 (77.8)
Box model with I chemistry	71.5 ± 13.0 (70.4)
Box model with Br and I chemistry	68.3 ± 13.6 (66.9)
Global model, no halogens	80.8 ± 18.1 (78.9)
Global model with Br chemistry	81.9 ± 19.0 (79.7)
Global model with I chemistry	70.4 ± 12.5 (70.5)
Global model with Br and I chemistry	71.3 ± 13.2 (71.3)

389

390 Table 2: Mean ( $\pm 1\sigma$ ) midday (1100-1300 hours) ratios of HO<sub>2</sub> to OH (SOS1 and SOS2 combined). Median  
391 values are given in parentheses.

392

393 In the box model without halogen chemistry, production of OH is dominated by ozone photolysis (76 %), HO<sub>2</sub> +  
394 NO (12 %) and HO<sub>2</sub> + O<sub>3</sub> (9 %), with OH loss controlled by OH + CO (37 %), OH + CH<sub>4</sub> (16 %) and OH +  
395 CH<sub>3</sub>CHO (15 %), as shown in Figure 5. Production of HO<sub>2</sub> in the model excluding halogens is controlled by OH  
396 + CO (45 %), CH<sub>3</sub>O + O<sub>2</sub> (19 %) and photolysis of HCHO (10 %), with loss governed by aerosol uptake (26 %),  
397 HO<sub>2</sub> + HO<sub>2</sub> (26 %), HO<sub>2</sub> + NO (15 %), HO<sub>2</sub> + CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (12 %) and HO<sub>2</sub> + O<sub>3</sub> (10 %). In the presence of halogens,  
398 the instantaneous budgets for OH and HO<sub>2</sub> are impacted by BrO and IO, as shown in Figures 5 and 6. For the  
399 model run including halogens, OH production is still dominated by ozone photolysis (68 %), but there are  
400 significant contributions from photolysis of HOI (10 %) and HOBr (3 %). Loss of HO<sub>2</sub> is also affected by the  
401 presence of the halogen species, with the dominant loss processes including aerosol uptake (20 %), HO<sub>2</sub> + HO<sub>2</sub>  
402 (19 %), HO<sub>2</sub> + IO (14 %), HO<sub>2</sub> + NO (12 %), HO<sub>2</sub> + CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (11 %), HO<sub>2</sub> + O<sub>3</sub> (8 %) and HO<sub>2</sub> + BrO (6 %). The  
403 change in the relative importance of HO<sub>2</sub> + NO on inclusion of halogens in the model results from both the  
404 increase in the total HO<sub>2</sub> sink, owing to the additional losses through HO<sub>2</sub> + BrO and HO<sub>2</sub> + IO, and the shift in  
405 NO<sub>x</sub> partitioning owing to the reactions Br + NO → Br + NO<sub>2</sub> and IO + NO → I + NO<sub>2</sub>. The reactions of BrO  
406 and IO with NO result in a change in the NO<sub>2</sub>:NO ratio of approximately 10 %, on average, which reduces the  
407 impact of HO<sub>2</sub> + NO as both a sink for HO<sub>2</sub> and a source for OH. As shown in Figures 4-6 there is little difference  
408 in the radical budgets between SOS1 and SOS2.

409

410 This box modelling study is consistent with previous studies (Kanaya et al., 2002; Bloss et al., 2005a; Kanaya et  
411 al., 2007; Sommariva et al., 2007; Whalley et al., 2010; Mahajan et al., 2010a; Stone et al., 2012) in that it implies  
412 that halogen chemistry is likely to increase the OH concentration of the marine boundary layer (and potentially

413 other regions of the troposphere) as it enhances the HO<sub>2</sub> to OH conversion through the production of HOBr and  
414 HOI. We now look at the impact of halogen chemistry on the concentrations of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> at Cape Verde within  
415 the framework of a global atmospheric chemistry model.

## 417 **Global Model**

418 Figure 1 shows the time series for OH and HO<sub>2</sub> calculated by the global model GEOS-Chem, with the average  
419 diurnal profiles shown in Figure 3. The global model displays a significant overprediction for OH and HO<sub>2</sub> during  
420 SOS1, but exhibits reasonable skill at reproducing the observed concentrations during SOS2 and captures the  
421 HO<sub>2</sub>:OH ratio for both measurement periods. The overpredictions of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> in the global model likely result  
422 from a combination of missing OH-sinks, particularly oxygenated volatile organic compounds (oVOCs) which  
423 are currently underestimated in the global model (Millet et al., 2015), and potential overprediction of the primary  
424 radical production rate owing to reductions in photolysis rates resulting from cloud cover that are not captured by  
425 the global model.

426  
427 At midday (1100-1300), the modelled to observed ratios for OH and HO<sub>2</sub> for the global model excluding halogen  
428 chemistry are  $(1.52 \pm 1.02)$  and  $(1.72 \pm 0.80)$ , respectively, with a mean modelled HO<sub>2</sub> to OH ratio of  $(80.8 \pm$   
429  $18.1)$  (compared to the observed HO<sub>2</sub> to OH ratio of  $(79.1 \pm 34.1)$ ). For the global model run including bromine  
430 chemistry, but not iodine, the mean midday modelled to observed ratios for OH and HO<sub>2</sub> are  $(1.48 \pm 1.05)$  and  
431  $(1.69 \pm 0.81)$ , respectively, with a mean midday modelled HO<sub>2</sub> to OH ratio of  $(81.9 \pm 19.0)$ . Bromine chemistry  
432 thus acts to decrease the concentrations of both OH and HO<sub>2</sub>, in contrast to the box model results which show  
433 increased concentrations of OH and decreased concentrations of HO<sub>2</sub>. For the model run including iodine, but not  
434 bromine, the midday modelled to observed ratios for OH and HO<sub>2</sub> are  $(1.57 \pm 1.00)$  and  $(1.59 \pm 0.81)$ , respectively,  
435 with a mean midday modelled HO<sub>2</sub> to OH ratio of  $(70.4 \pm 12.5)$ . Iodine chemistry thus results in increased OH  
436 and decreased HO<sub>2</sub> for both the global and box model simulations at Cape Verde. Inclusion of bromine and iodine  
437 chemistry combined leads to midday modelled to observed ratios of  $(1.53 \pm 1.01)$  for OH and  $(1.57 \pm 0.82)$  for  
438 HO<sub>2</sub>, and a mean midday modelled HO<sub>2</sub> to OH ratio of  $(71.3 \pm 13.2)$ . These results are shown in Table 2, alongside  
439 those for the box model.

440  
441 The results from the global model at Cape Verde thus differ from those of the box model. For the box model,  
442 inclusion of bromine and iodine chemistry, whether separately or combined, leads to increased OH and decreased  
443 HO<sub>2</sub> through increased conversion of HO<sub>2</sub> to OH through the production and subsequent photolysis of HOBr and  
444 HOI. In the global model a more complex pattern emerges. In a similar way to the box model, the HO<sub>2</sub>  
445 concentrations in the global model are decreased on inclusion of bromine and/or iodine owing to the additional

446 loss reactions  $\text{HO}_2 + \text{BrO}$  and  $\text{HO}_2 + \text{IO}$ . When bromine chemistry is considered in the global model in isolation  
447 from iodine chemistry, the OH concentration decreases, despite the production and photolysis of HOBr. This  
448 decrease occurs as a result of a reduction in the  $\text{O}_3$  concentration in the model on inclusion of bromine chemistry  
449 owing to the reaction of Br with  $\text{O}_3$ , which leads to a decrease in the rate of primary radical production from  $\text{O}_3$   
450 photolysis and thus lower OH concentrations. The impact of the decreased radical production rate is greater than  
451 that leading to increased OH production through HOBr photolysis, and the net OH concentration is reduced in  
452 the global model. This effect is not observed in the box model calculations as the model runs are constrained to  
453 long-lived species – including  $\text{O}_3$ . The change in  $\text{O}_3$  concentration on the inclusion of halogen chemistry is thus  
454 not considered in the box model simulations, and the subsequent impacts of halogens consider only those changes  
455 occurring on a more rapid timescale, which lead to increases in the OH concentration.

456  
457 However, the inclusion of iodine chemistry in the global model does lead to increased OH concentrations at Cape  
458 Verde. Direct emissions of HOI in the global model, in addition to chemical production through  $\text{HO}_2 + \text{IO}$ , result  
459 in increased OH production through HOI photolysis as well as the repartitioning of  $\text{HO}_2$  and OH through HOI  
460 production in a similar manner to that for HOBr. However, the more rapid cycling of  $\text{HO}_2$  to OH through the  
461 more rapid production and photolysis of HOI compared to HOBr, reduces the impact of iodine chemistry on the  
462  $\text{HO}_2$ :OH ratio compared to that for bromine chemistry. Iodine chemistry thus can reduce the OH concentration  
463 similarly to bromine chemistry, through the destruction of  $\text{O}_3$  and subsequent reduction in primary production  
464 rate, but the impact is less than that for bromine, and can be offset by the direct emissions of HOI which increases  
465 the production rate of OH through photolysis.

466  
467 The impacts of iodine chemistry in the global model are thus more complex than those for bromine chemistry.  
468 When bromine and iodine chemistry are combined in the global model there is a competition between the effects  
469 of the reduction in primary production of OH, through depletion of  $\text{O}_3$ , and the production of OH from photolysis  
470 of HOBr and HOI and, for the model simulations at Cape Verde, the impacts of direct HOI emissions dominate.  
471 The OH concentration is thus marginally increased compared to simulations containing no halogens, although the  
472  $\text{HO}_2$  concentrations are significantly decreased.

473  
474 The impacts of halogens on OH radical concentrations in the global model thus display a complexity that is  
475 somewhat obscured in the box model simulations. Overall, the inclusion of halogens in the global model leads to  
476 a slight increase in OH at Cape Verde, but, owing to the opposing effects of bromine and iodine, this result is  
477 subject to the modelled concentrations of bromine and iodine species. Observations at Cape Verde made between  
478 November 2006 and June 2007 indicate ‘top-hat’ profiles for BrO and IO, with average daytime mixing ratios of



2.5 ppt and 1.4 ppt, respectively, and little variability over the entire campaign (Read et al., 2008; Mahajan et al., 2010a). The global model simulations reported here predict average mixing ratios of ~0.5 ppt for BrO and ~1 ppt for IO during SOS, and thus underpredict BrO but perform well for IO. The underprediction of BrO at Cape Verde results from recent model updates which exclude emissions of bromine species from sea-salt debromination (Schmidt et al., 2016) in order to provide improved agreement with observations of BrO made by the GOME-2 satellite (Theys et al., 2011) and in the free troposphere and the tropical Eastern Pacific MBL (Gomez Martin et al., 2013; Volkamer et al., 2015; Wang et al., 2015). If sea-salt debromination were included, daytime mixing ratios of BrO at Cape Verde would be approximately 2 ppt, as shown by Parella et al. (2012) and Schmidt et al. (2016), and thus in closer agreement to the observations. Increased modelled concentrations of BrO at Cape Verde resulting from inclusion of sea-salt debromination would have a greater effect on OH and HO<sub>2</sub>, leading to more significant decreases in OH and HO<sub>2</sub> when bromine chemistry is included without iodine chemistry, with the larger decrease in OH potentially off-setting the increase in OH observed when bromine and iodine chemistry are combined. However, the current model simulations do not consider the coupling between bromine and sulfur chemistry, which may represent a significant sink for reactive bromine species in the troposphere and balance sources from sea-salt debromination (Chen et al., 2017). These results thus demonstrate the need for further investigation and constraint of sources and emission rates of bromine species, and of the coupling between sulfur chemistry and reactive bromine species. We now discuss the global impacts of halogen chemistry.

## **Global impacts of halogen chemistry on OH and HO<sub>2</sub>**

On the global scale, concentrations of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> are reduced on inclusion of bromine and iodine chemistry, both individually and combined. The global mass weighted annual mean OH concentration decreases by 3.8 % on inclusion of bromine chemistry, but only 0.02 % on inclusion of iodine chemistry alone. When the chemistry of bromine and iodine is combined in the model, the global mass weighted annual mean OH concentration decreases by 4.5 %. For HO<sub>2</sub>, the global mass weighted annual mean is decreased by 4.2 % by bromine, 5.6 % by iodine and 9.7 % by bromine and iodine combined. Figure 7 shows the probability distribution functions for the changes to OH and HO<sub>2</sub> concentrations for the monthly mean values for all grid boxes within the troposphere for the year. For the majority of grid boxes, concentrations of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> are reduced on inclusion of bromine chemistry, with iodine also generally reducing HO<sub>2</sub> concentrations but leading to a wider spread of changes to the OH concentration, and similar numbers of grid boxes showing increased and decreased concentrations. When bromine and iodine chemistry are combined in the model, HO<sub>2</sub> shows a more significant decrease than for either halogen individually, and OH, although exhibiting increased concentrations in a significant number of grid boxes, displays a greater tendency for decreased concentrations.

512

513 Figure 8 shows the changes to the annual modelled surface layer OH and HO<sub>2</sub> concentrations on inclusion of  
514 halogen chemistry, with annual surface layer mixing ratios of BrO and IO shown in Figure 9. The most significant  
515 changes to OH and HO<sub>2</sub> occur over marine regions, particularly over the Southern Pacific. Smaller changes are  
516 observed over land, and any increased concentrations, including those for OH over Cape Verde, can be seen to  
517 occur in coastal regions where the impacts of direct HOI emissions dominate and concentrations of IO  
518 concentrations are typically elevated.

519

520 Thus, overall, halogens act to reduce the oxidising capacity of the troposphere through reductions to O<sub>3</sub> and  
521 subsequent reductions in the primary production rates of OH and HO<sub>2</sub>, despite the slight increase in OH  
522 concentration predicted by the global model at Cape Verde. Consideration of the full extent of the impacts of  
523 halogens on the global oxidising capacity is hindered by uncertainties in the concentrations and distributions of  
524 halogen species, and model representations of halogen processes, particularly those relating to sea salt  
525 debromination, ocean iodide emissions, parameterisations of iodine recycling in aerosols and photolysis of higher  
526 iodine oxides (Sherwen et al., 2016a).

527

## 528 **Conclusions**

529 Measurements of OH and HO<sub>2</sub> made by LIF-FAGE at the Cape Verde Atmospheric Observatory during the  
530 Seasonal Oxidants Study in 2009 have been simulated by a constrained box model and a three-dimensional global  
531 chemistry transport model. The observations are generally reproduced well by the box model, but are  
532 overpredicted by the global model.

533

534 The oxidising capacity of the two models, as manifested by the OH concentration, shows opposing sensitivity to  
535 halogens. The constrained box model shows an increase in OH concentrations with the inclusion of halogens,  
536 whereas the global transport model shows a decrease in OH concentrations globally, despite a marginal decrease  
537 in the OH concentration at Cape Verde. This difference between models reflects differing representation of  
538 chemical timescales by the models. The box model is constrained to concentrations of long-lived compounds,  
539 including O<sub>3</sub>, and considers only impacts on short timescales, whereas the global model includes impacts  
540 occurring on longer timescales. Within this context, the box model includes the short timescale impact of halogens  
541 on the repartitioning of HO<sub>2</sub> to OH, thus increasing OH and decreasing HO<sub>2</sub>, but does not consider the longer  
542 timescale impact of halogen-mediated ozone destruction which impacts primary radical production. This  
543 highlights a general problem with understanding the complex interactions within atmospheric chemistry and the  
544 Earth system in general. Evaluating the impact of a small part of the system on the system as a whole can be

545 difficult and the most significant processes may occur on timescales significantly longer than those of the  
546 perturbation.

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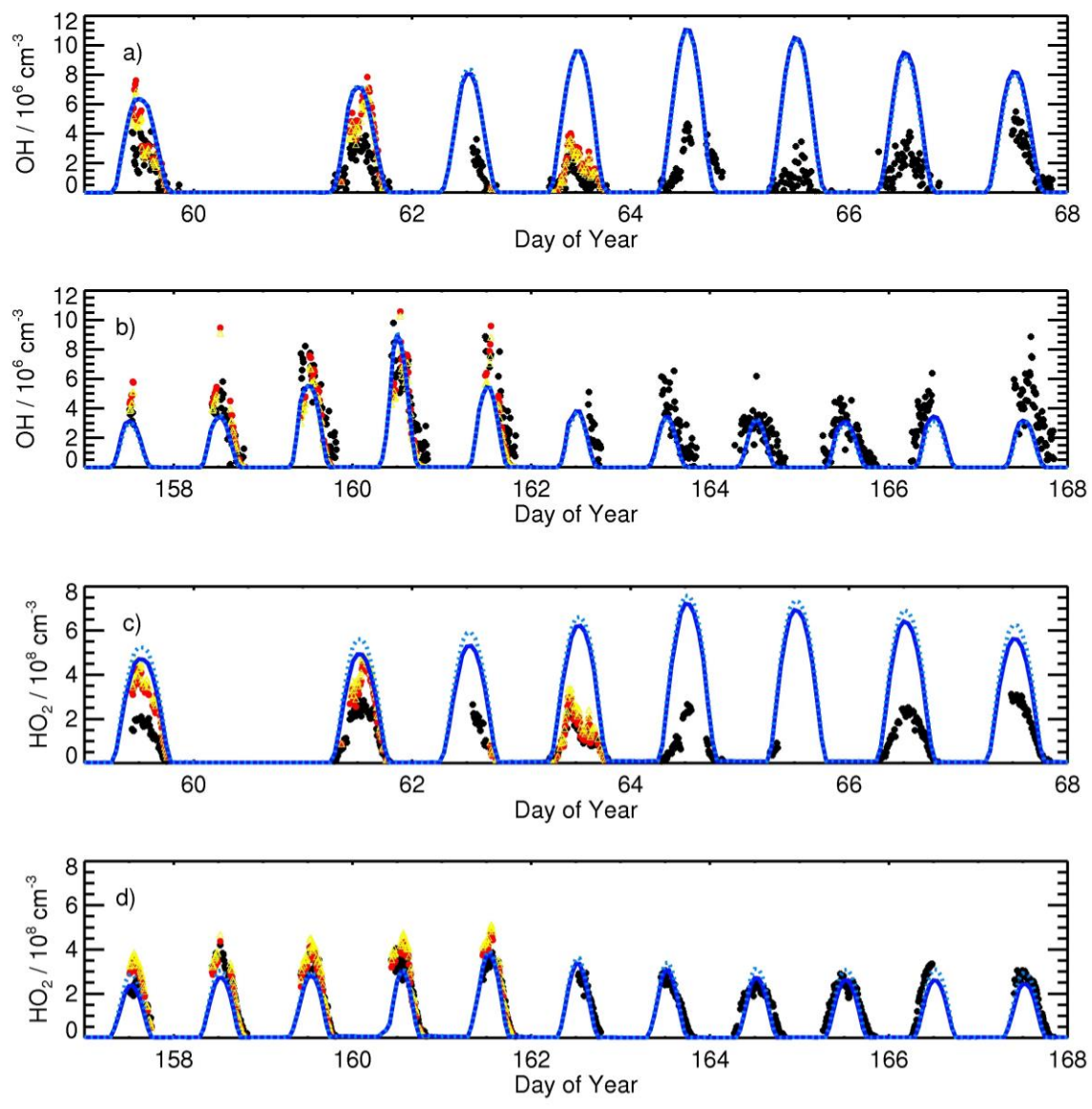
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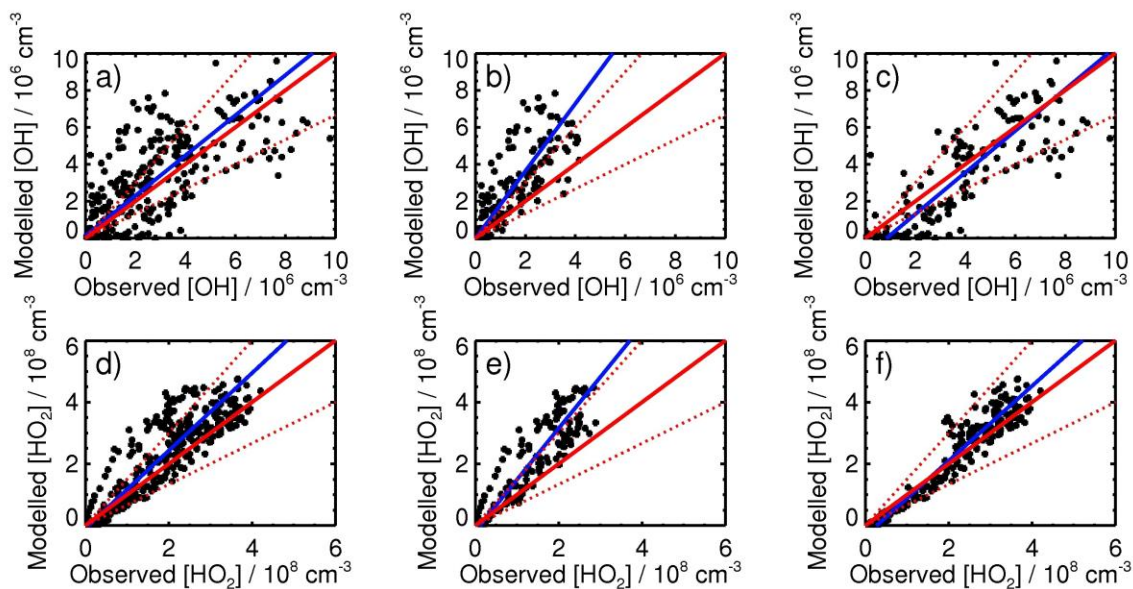
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Figure 1: Observed and modelled concentrations of a) OH during SOS1 (February-March 2009, days 58-68); b) OH during SOS2 (May-June 2009, days 157-168); c) HO<sub>2</sub> during SOS1; d) HO<sub>2</sub> during SOS2. Observed data are shown in black; box model concentrations with halogen chemistry are shown by filled red circles; box model concentrations without halogen chemistry are shown by open yellow triangles; global model concentrations with halogen chemistry are shown by solid dark blue lines; global model concentrations without halogen chemistry are shown by broken blue lines.





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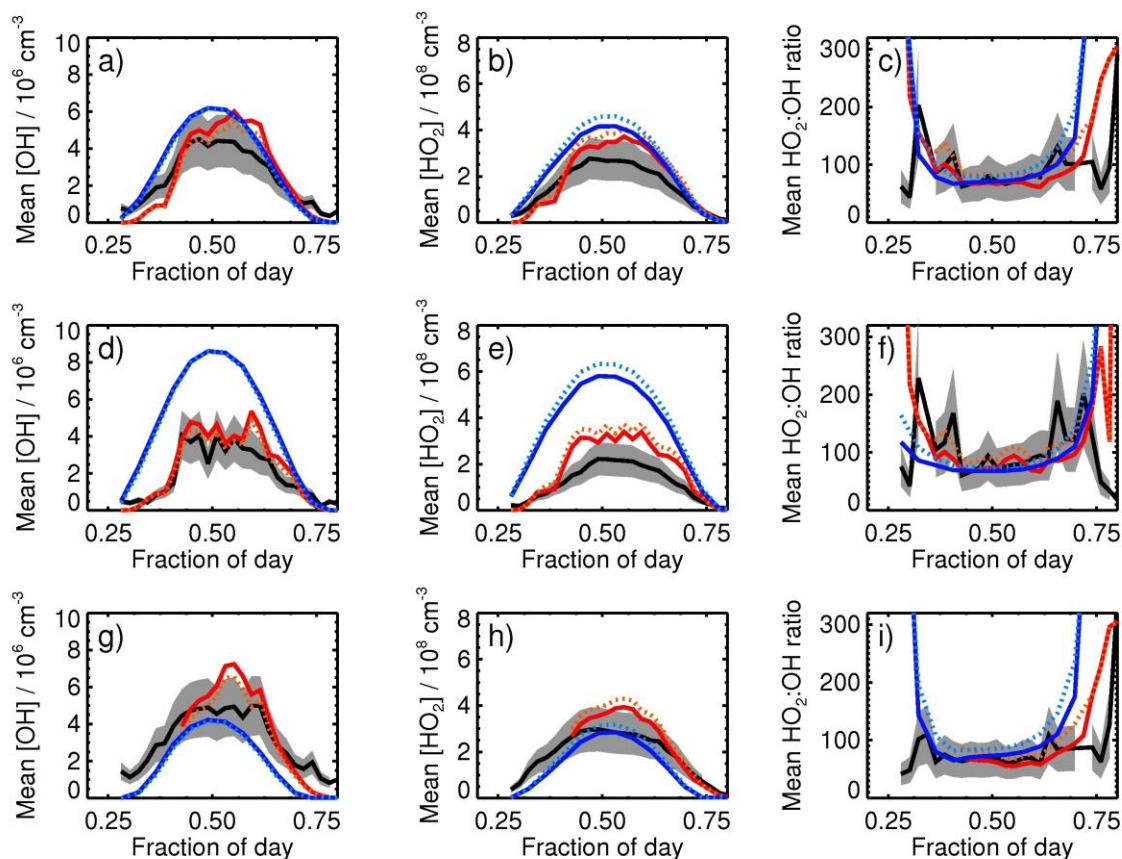
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Figure 2: Comparison of modelled and observed concentrations of a) OH during SOS1 (February-March 2009) and SOS2 (May-June 2009); b) OH during SOS1; c) OH during SOS2; d) HO<sub>2</sub> during SOS1 and SOS2; e) HO<sub>2</sub> during SOS1; f) HO<sub>2</sub> during SOS2. In each plot, the solid red line indicates the 1:1 line, with 50 % limits given by the broken red lines. The best fit lines are shown in blue and are described by a)  $[\text{OH}]_{\text{mod}} = (1.09 \pm 0.11) \times [\text{OH}]_{\text{obs}} + (0.13 \pm 0.38) \times 10^6$  ( $r^2 = 0.49$ ); b)  $[\text{OH}]_{\text{mod}} = (1.82 \pm 0.26) \times [\text{OH}]_{\text{obs}} - (0.01 \pm 0.51) \times 10^6$  ( $r^2 = 0.56$ ); c)  $[\text{OH}]_{\text{mod}} = (1.11 \pm 0.15) \times [\text{OH}]_{\text{obs}} - (0.95 \pm 0.66) \times 10^6$  ( $r^2 = 0.64$ ); d)  $[\text{HO}_2]_{\text{mod}} = (1.26 \pm 0.10) \times [\text{HO}_2]_{\text{obs}} - (0.08 \pm 0.22) \times 10^8$  ( $r^2 = 0.77$ ); e)  $[\text{HO}_2]_{\text{mod}} = (1.66 \pm 0.21) \times [\text{HO}_2]_{\text{obs}} - (0.17 \pm 0.34) \times 10^8$  ( $r^2 = 0.78$ ); f)  $[\text{HO}_2]_{\text{mod}} = (1.21 \pm 0.12) \times [\text{HO}_2]_{\text{obs}} - (0.32 \pm 0.30) \times 10^8$  ( $r^2 = 0.91$ ).



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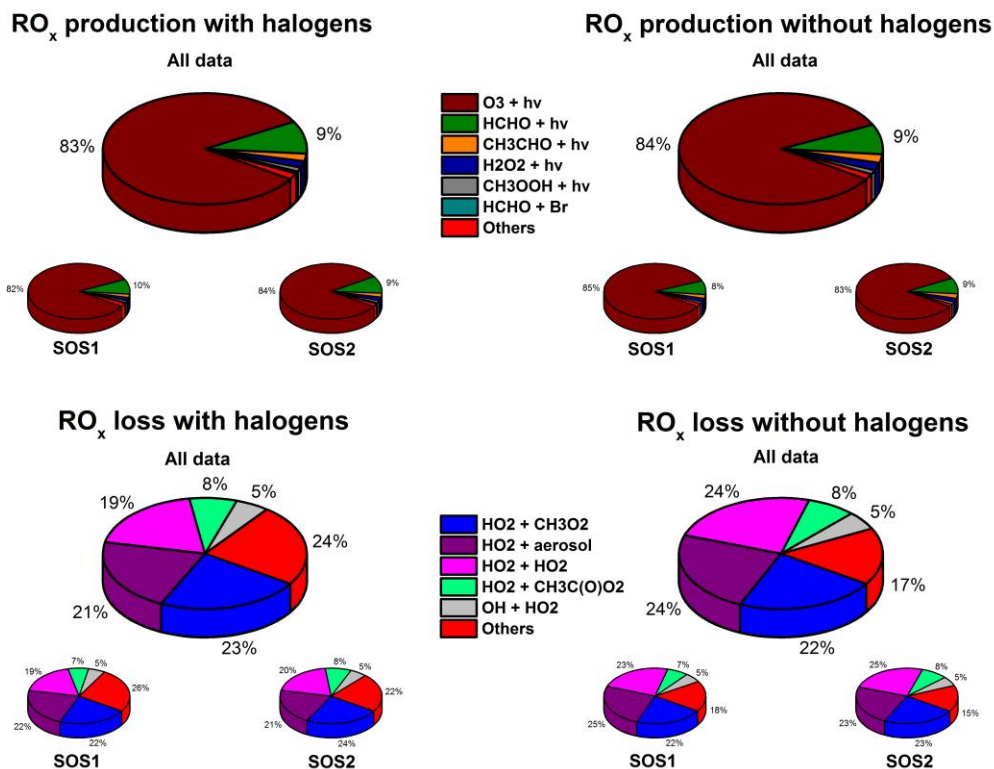
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Figure 3: Average diurnal profiles during the Seasonal Oxidant Study (SOS) at the Cape Verde Atmospheric Observatory for a) OH during both measurement periods; b) HO<sub>2</sub> during both measurement periods; c) HO<sub>2</sub>:OH ratio during both measurement periods; d) OH during SOS1 (Feb-Mar 2009); e) HO<sub>2</sub> during SOS1; f) HO<sub>2</sub>:OH during SOS1; g) OH during SOS2 (May-June); h) HO<sub>2</sub> during SOS2; i) HO<sub>2</sub>:OH ratio during SOS2. Observed data are shown in black, with grey shading indicating the variability in the observations; box model output with halogen chemistry is shown by solid red lines; box model output without halogen chemistry is shown by broken orange lines; global model output with halogen chemistry is shown by solid dark blue lines; global model output without halogen chemistry is shown by broken blue lines.



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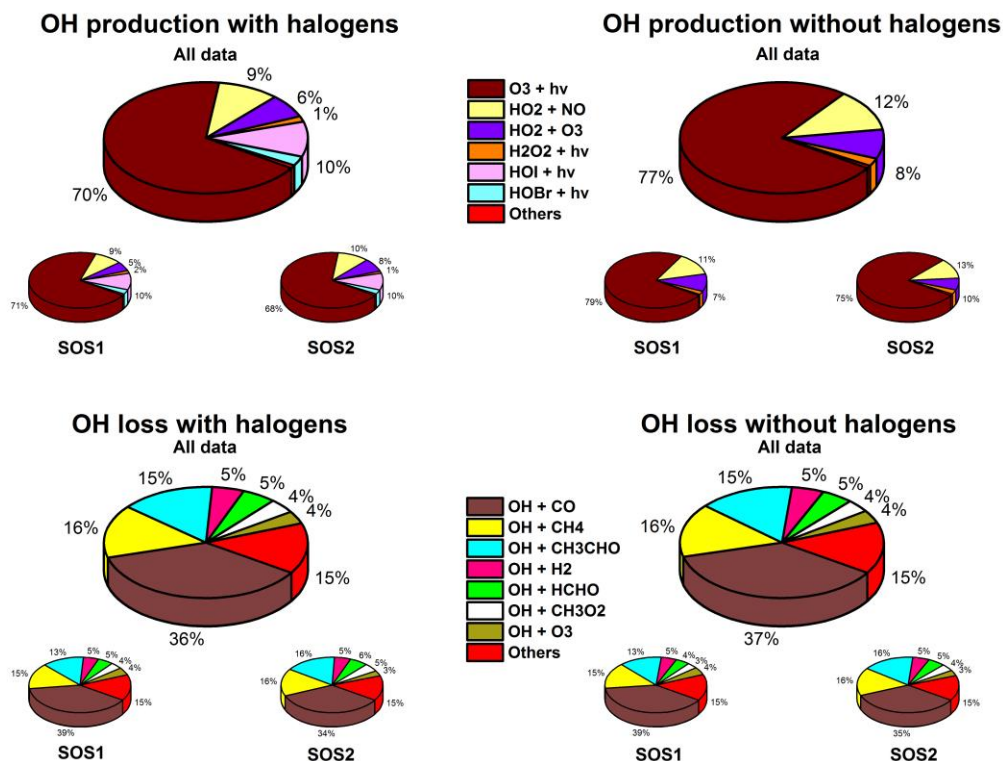
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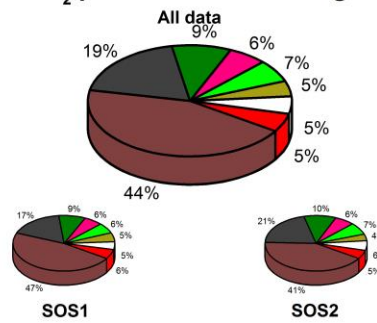
Figure 4: Processes controlling the a) instantaneous RO<sub>x</sub> radical production (with RO<sub>x</sub> defined here as OH+HO<sub>2</sub>+HOBr+HOI+RO+RO<sub>2</sub> owing to the rapid processing between HO<sub>2</sub> and HOBr/HOI) around noon (1100-1300 hours) for box model simulations with halogen chemistry; b) the instantaneous RO<sub>x</sub> radical production around noon for box model simulations without halogen chemistry; c) the instantaneous RO<sub>x</sub> radical loss around noon for box model simulations with halogen chemistry; d) the instantaneous RO<sub>x</sub> radical loss around noon for box model simulations without halogen chemistry. The main charts show the average results for SOS1+SOS2, with results for SOS1 and SOS2 shown separately in the inset charts.



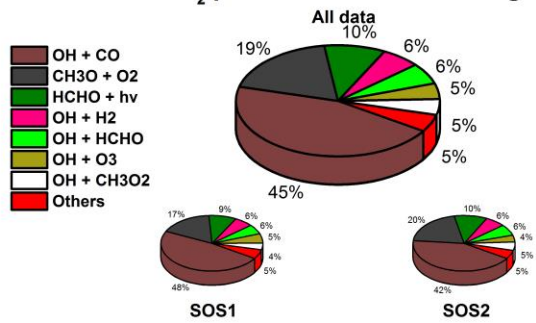
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112 Figure 5: Processes controlling the a) instantaneous OH radical production around noon (1100-1300 hours) for  
 113 box model simulations with halogen chemistry; b) the instantaneous OH radical production around noon for box  
 114 model simulations without halogen chemistry; c) the instantaneous OH radical loss around noon for box model  
 115 simulations with halogen chemistry; d) the instantaneous OH radical loss around noon for box model simulations  
 116 without halogen chemistry. The main charts show the average results for SOS1+SOS2, with results for SOS1  
 117 and SOS2 shown separately in the inset charts.

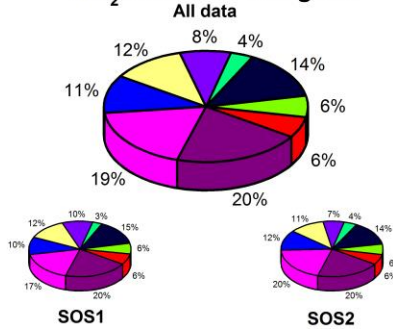
**HO<sub>2</sub> production with halogens**



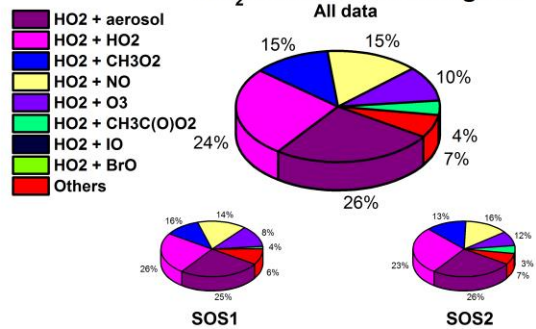
**HO<sub>2</sub> production without halogens**



**HO<sub>2</sub> loss with halogens**



**HO<sub>2</sub> loss without halogens**



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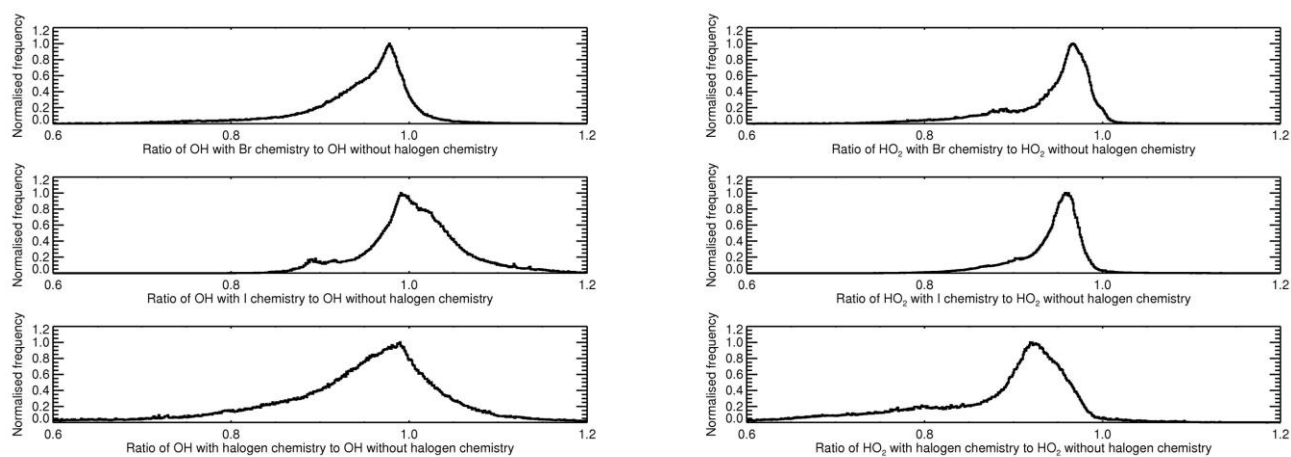
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Figure 6: Processes controlling the a) instantaneous HO<sub>2</sub> radical production around noon (1100-1300 hours) for box model simulations with halogen chemistry; b) the instantaneous HO<sub>2</sub> radical production around noon for box model simulations without halogen chemistry; c) the instantaneous HO<sub>2</sub> radical loss around noon for box model simulations with halogen chemistry; d) the instantaneous HO<sub>2</sub> radical loss around noon for box model simulations without halogen chemistry. The main charts show the average results for SOS1+SOS2, with results for SOS1 and SOS2 shown separately in the inset charts.

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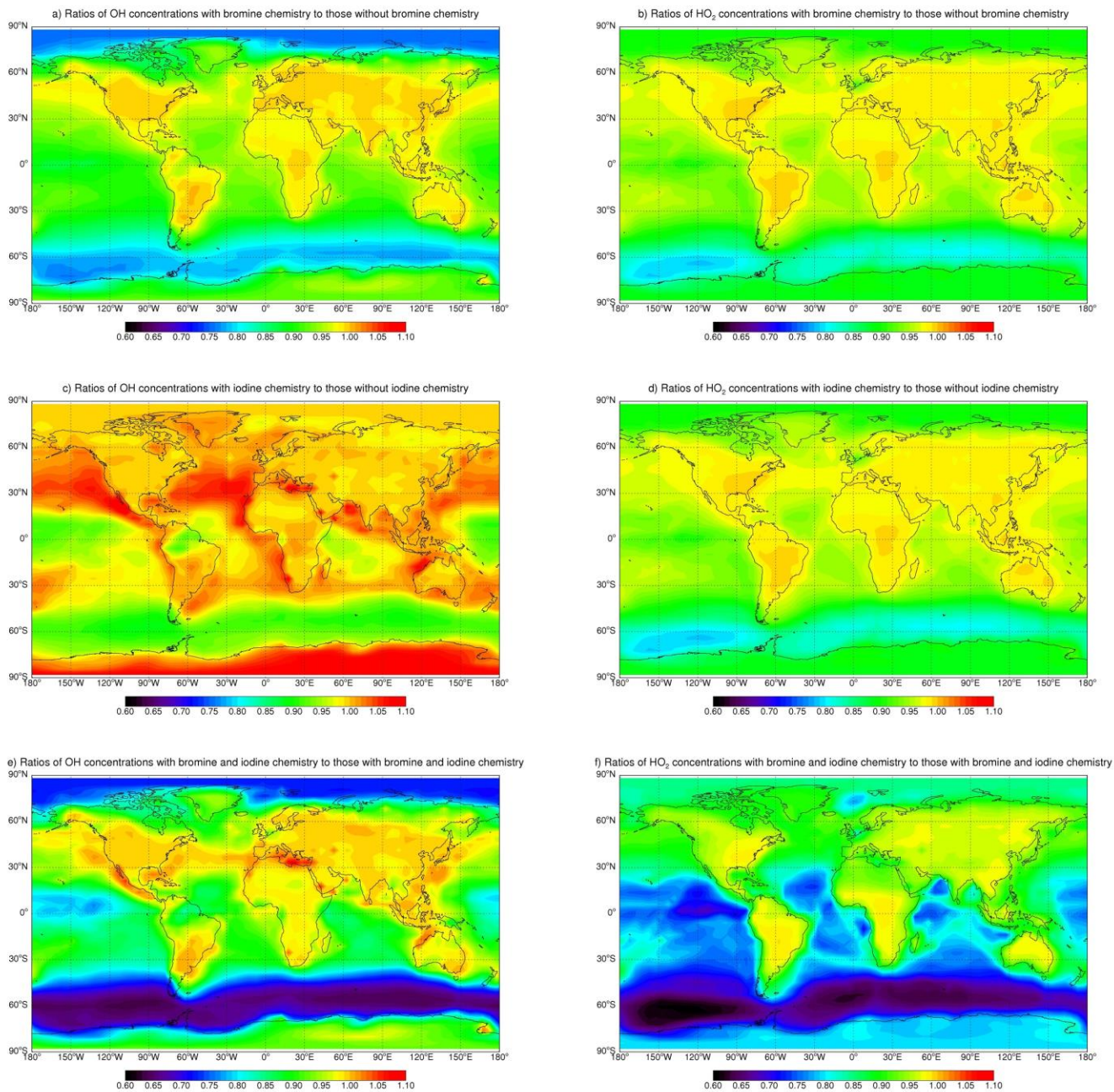
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Figure 7: Normalised probability distribution functions showing the fractional changes in OH (left hand side) and HO<sub>2</sub> (right hand side) in GEOS-Chem for all grid boxes on inclusion of bromine chemistry (upper panels), iodine chemistry (middle panels) and bromine and iodine chemistry combined (lower panels).



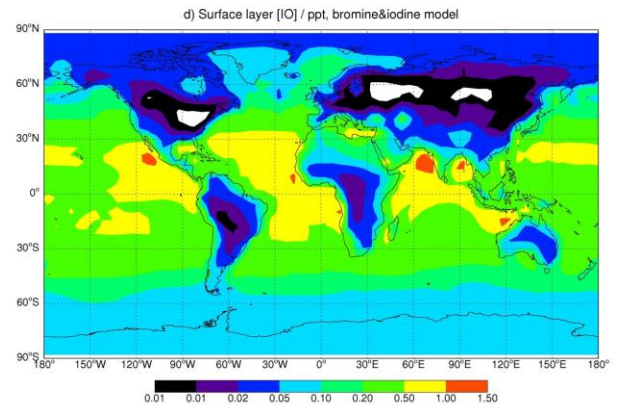
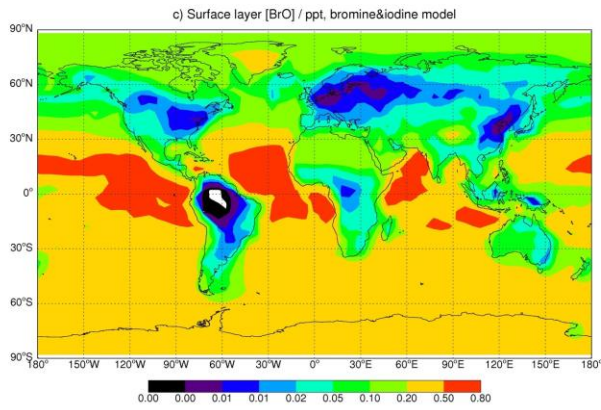
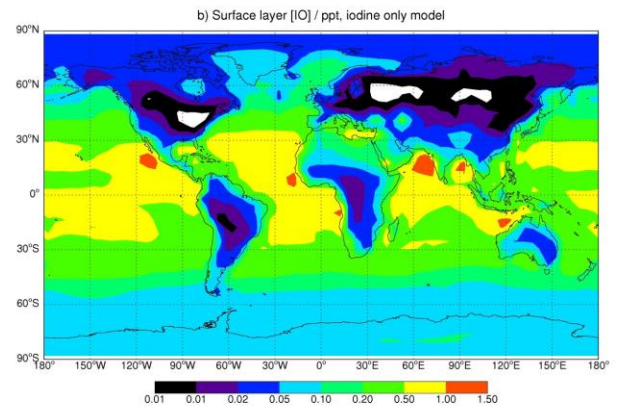
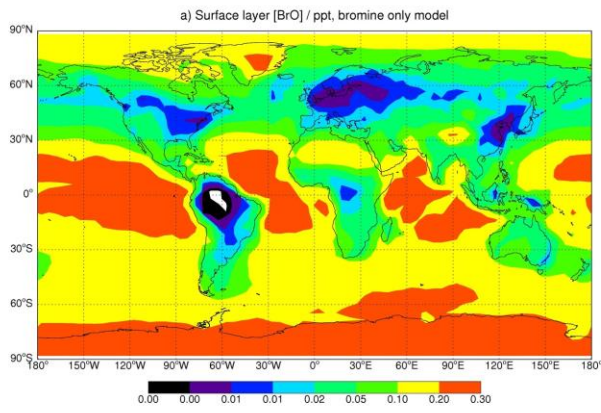
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Figure 8: Percentage changes to annual surface layer concentrations of OH (left hand side) and HO<sub>2</sub> (right hand side) in GEOS-Chem on inclusion of bromine chemistry (upper panels), iodine chemistry (middle panels) and bromine and iodine chemistry combined (lower panels).



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Figure 9: Annual surface layer mixing ratios (ppt) of BrO and IO radicals in GEOS-Chem for model runs with just bromine chemistry (upper left panel), just iodine chemistry (upper right panel) and bromine and iodine chemistry combined (lower panels)