

Deposition of ionic species and black carbon to the Arctic snow pack: Combining snow pit observations with modeling

Hans-Werner Jacobi¹, Friedrich Obleitner², Sophie Da Costa¹, Patrick Ginot^{1,3},
KonstantinosKostas Eleftheriadis⁴, Wenche Aas⁵, and Marco Zanatta^{1,6}

¹Institute for Geosciences and Environmental Research (IGE), Univ. Grenoble Alpes / CNRS / Grenoble INP / IRD, Grenoble, France

²Institute of Atmospheric and Cryospheric Sciences, University of Innsbruck, Austria

³Observatoire des Sciences de l'Univers de Grenoble (OSUG), Univ. Grenoble Alpes / IRD / CNRS / Irstea / Météo France, Grenoble, France

⁴ERL, Institute of Nuclear & Radiological Sciences & Technology, Energy and Safety, NCSR Demokritos, Athens, Greece

⁵Norwegian Institute for Air Research, Kjeller, Norway

⁶Now at: Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI), Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven, Germany

Correspondence to: Hans-Werner.Jacobi@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr

Abstract. Although aerosols in the Arctic have multiple and complex impacts on the regional climate, their removal due to deposition is still not well quantified. We combined meteorological, aerosol, precipitation, and snow pack observations with simulations to derive information about the deposition of sea salt components and black carbon (BC) from November 2011 to April 2012 to the Arctic snow pack at two locations close to Ny-Ålesund, Svalbard. The dominating role of sea salt and the contribution of dust for the composition of atmospheric aerosols were reflected in the seasonal composition of the snow pack. The strong alignment of the concentrations of the major sea salt components in the aerosols, the precipitation, and the snow pack is linked to the importance of wet deposition for the transfer from the atmosphere to the snow pack. This agreement was less strong for monthly snow budgets and deposition indicating important relocation of the impurities inside the snow pack after deposition. Wet deposition was less important for the transfer of nitrate, non sea salt-sulfate, and BC to the snow during the winter period. The average BC concentration in the snow pack remains small with a limited impact on snow albedo and melting. Nevertheless, the observations also indicate an important redistribution of BC in the snowpack leading to layers with enhanced concentrations. The complex behavior of bromide due to modifications during the sea salt aerosol formation and remobilization in the atmosphere and in the snow were not resolved due to the lack of measurements in aerosols and precipitation.

1 Introduction

Aerosols and specifically black carbon (BC) play an important role in the regional climate of the Arctic (Shindell, 2007; Quinn et al., 2007) since they modify the radiation balance of the atmosphere as well as the activation of clouds and reduce the albedo of different cryospheric components like snow and glaciers enhancing the melting of snow and ice after deposition. Arctic aerosols exhibit a pronounced seasonal cycle with high concentrations in winter and early spring and lower values in summer (Law and Stohl, 2007; Quinn et al., 2007; Eleftheriadis et al., 2009). This seasonality is caused by different processes related to emission, transport, and deposition, which undergo seasonal cycles (Law and Stohl, 2007; Croft et al., 2016).

39 Sea spray, dust, and biogenic aerosol particles are important natural aerosol types in the Arctic. In contrast,
40 Arctic BC stems primarily from regions outside the Arctic (Law and Stohl, 2007). Like in all marine
41 environments, sea salt aerosol (SSA) dominates the atmospheric aerosol burden over the Arctic Ocean and its
42 coastal areas (e.g. Geng et al., 2010; Weinbruch et al., 2012). The production and climatic effects of SSA in the
43 Arctic are expected to change in the future as a result of changes in the sea ice cover and ocean temperatures
44 (Struthers et al., 2011; Zábory et al., 2013). Dust may act as effective ice nuclei in the Arctic (Si et al., 2018) and
45 may have the potential to influence radiative and other properties of mixed-phase cold clouds.

46 The removal due to deposition controls the lifetime of aerosols and in the Arctic determines the input of the
47 aerosols to the snow and glaciers. In fact, the past atmospheric input has been reconstructed from ice cores in the
48 Arctic (Legrand and Mayewski, 1997; Isaksson et al., 2003; Bauer et al. 2013). Moreover, the deposition of BC
49 to cryospheric components like snow and sea ice also impacts the local and regional climate in the Arctic due to
50 the lowering of the snow albedo and associated albedo feedback processes (e.g. Flanner et al., 2007; Bond et al.,
51 2013; Jacobi et al., 2015). The removal results from wet deposition caused by precipitation and dry deposition of
52 particles, which depend on aerosols size, meteorological conditions, and properties of the atmospheric boundary
53 layer. Despite its importance the deposition of the aerosols to the cryosphere is not well quantified for many
54 polar sites and even the respective contributions of wet and dry deposition are not well known for many
55 compounds (Legrand and Mayewski, 1997; Bauer et al. 2013). Moreover, Stohl et al. (2007) evoked a potentially
56 large enhancement of the deposition of impurities due to blowing snow during a period with elevated aerosol
57 concentrations.

58 ~~As a result,~~ The recommended method to determine dry deposition relies mostly on the calculation of fluxes
59 based on atmospheric composition and an estimated dry deposition velocity (Vet et al., 2014), which shows,
60 however, a large uncertainty. In the case of BC, the calculated deposition varies considerably across models
61 since it depends on the applied assumptions and parameters concerning the size of the aerosols and the mixing
62 state (Bond et al., 2013). For example, the estimated total BC deposition in the Arctic varies between 8 and more
63 than 13 Tg C yr⁻¹ with the dry deposition contributing between a few and up to 40 % of the total removal (Liu et
64 al., 2011). Although a comprehensive understanding of microphysics and chemistry related to aging and
65 deposition is essential for a successful simulation of BC concentrations over the Arctic (Liu et al., 2011; Sharma
66 et al., 2013), direct BC deposition measurements are still limited. In addition, the few available measurements of
67 ~~average the~~ dry deposition of submicron particles over snow also show a large range of deposition velocities
68 from 0.02 to 0.33 cm s⁻¹ (Duan et al., 1988; Contini et al., 2010; Grönlund et al., 2002).

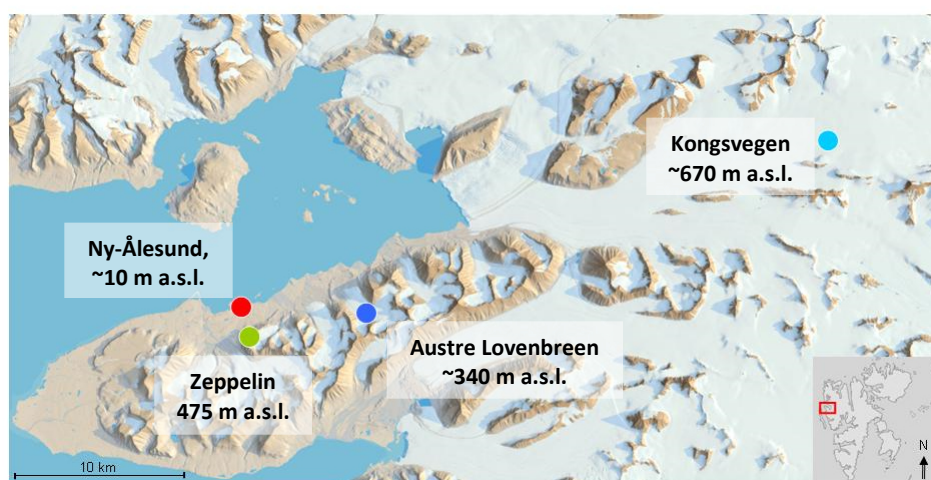
69 While detailed investigations of the chemical properties of aerosols have been performed at Ny-Ålesund based
70 on single particle analysis (e.g. Geng et al., 2010; Weinbruch et al., 2012) similar studies for the composition of
71 the precipitation and the snow pack are currently missing. Moreover, due to the rapid changes in aerosol sources
72 it is urgent to better quantify the fate of different aerosol types in the Arctic. Here, we combine observations in
73 the snow pack and the atmosphere to better constrain deposition processes for major and minor sea salt
74 components and BC around Ny-Ålesund, Svalbard during the winter period. We used meteorological
75 observations to perform detailed physical snow pack modeling. The results of such simulations are to our
76 knowledge for the first time combined with precipitation and atmospheric aerosol measurements to derive
77 chemical profiles and monthly snow budgets related to dry and wet deposition. The calculated profiles are finally
78 compared to physical and chemical snow pack measurements to evaluate the performance of the snow pack

79 model and to improve our understanding of the deposition processes. Variations in the concentrations of multiple
80 species in aerosols, precipitation, and in the snowpack are used to study the transfer processes from the
81 atmosphere to the snow for the investigated species.

82 2 Methods

83 2.1 Snow sampling

84 Sampling of snow was performed in snow pits on two glaciers located approximately 8 and 35 km to the east of
85 Ny-Ålesund, Svalbard (Fig. 1). The snow was sampled on 30 March 2012 on the Kongsvegen glacier (snow pit
86 KV, 78.755° N, 13.337° E, ~670 m a.s.l.) and on 13 April 2012 on the Austre Lovénbreen glacier (snow pit AL,
87 78.871° N, 12.150° E, ~340 m a.s.l.). The Kongsvegen glacier is one of the largest glaciers in the vicinity of Ny-
88 Alesund with an area of ~100 km² and a length of 26 km. It reaches from sea level to a maximum altitude of 750
89 m with slopes ranging from 0.5 to 2.5° (Karner et al., 2013). Austre Lovenbreen is a low elevation, small valley
90 glacier with an area of ~10 km² with a surrounding topography affecting meteorological conditions like wind and
91 precipitation. Nevertheless, the snow pit was located in the central part of the glacier with rather homogeneous
92 snow properties (Bernard et al., 2017). In both cases, pits were dug down to the ice layer formed during the
93 summer/fall period in 2011. The sampled snow pack, thus, represented the precipitation accumulated during the
94 previous winter period. For both snow pits the stratigraphy was established based on visual inspection of the
95 different layers following international guidelines (Fierz et al., 2009). Snow density was measured using a 250
96 cm³ triangular snow cutter. Furthermore, duplicate snow samples were collected using 50 mL polypropylene
97 tubes for either chemical or BC analysis. If allowed by the thickness and the hardness, each identified snow layer
98 was sampled separately and at least once. The tubes with an inner diameter of 2.7 cm were horizontally inserted
99 into the wall of the snow pit after careful cleaning of the snow surface. The below reported depths of the snow
100 samples correspond to the center of the tube openings. Furthermore, three fresh snow samples were collected
101 within 12 h after the end of the precipitation on 24 (two samples) and 29 March at a distance of ~5 km from the
102 village of Ny-Ålesund, which were analyzed for BC.



103 Fig. 1: 3D map of the Kongsfjord area with Ny-Ålesund (red), Zeppelin Station (green) and the locations of the snow
104 pits on the Kongsvegen (light blue) and the Austre Lovénbreen glaciers (dark blue) indicated (©Norwegian Polar
105 Institute).
106

107 2.2 Snow analysis

108 All samples were stored at -20°C at Ny-Ålesund, transported frozen to Grenoble using isolated boxes and stored
109 further at -20°C until analysis. All samples were melted in a thermostated water bath and were analyzed within
110 30 min after melting. Concentrations of the components sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, chloride,
111 sulfate, nitrate, and bromide were determined using ion chromatography in one of the duplicate snow samples.
112 The samples were filtered using 0.22 µm Acrodisc filters before analysis. Anions and cations were analyzed with
113 a combined suppressed conductivity Dionex ICS3000 instrument using AS11-HC and CS12 columns. The
114 detection limit is typically below 1 ppb for all measured compounds. The analytical precision is around 5 % for
115 all ions. Five analyzed samples showed bromide concentrations below the detection limit (3 samples snow pit
116 KV, 2 samples snow pit AL), which were replaced by values of 0.5 ppb for all further calculations. Non sea salt-
117 sulfate concentrations were calculated according to $[\text{nss-sulfate}] = [\text{sulfate}] - 0.2516 \cdot [\text{sodium}]$ (Millero et al.,
118 2008).

119 Refractory BC (rBC) was determined with a Single Particle Soot Photometer (SP2, Droplet Measurement
120 Technologies, USA). Details of the analytical procedure are described in Lim et al. (2014). Briefly, the SP2
121 allows quantifying the mass of single particles using a laser-induced incandescence technique. The instrument
122 has unity detection efficiency for rBC particles with diameters between 80 and 600 nm, while avoiding
123 interferences with other inorganic or organic species. The instrument was calibrated using size-selected fullerene
124 soot (Alfa Aesar Inc., USA). A commercial nebulizer (APEX-Q, Elemental Scientific Inc., Omaha, USA) was
125 used to transfer the particles from the melted snow to the aerosol phase. The losses during aerosolization were
126 determined daily using suspensions of Aquadag standards with different mass concentrations resulting in an
127 average efficiency of 56 %, which was applied to all reported rBC concentrations. Further details are shown in
128 the Supplementary Material (Fig. S1). Two samples from snow pit AL showed rBC concentrations below the
129 limit of quantification of 0.03 ppb (Lim et al., 2014), which was used instead for all further calculations.

130 2.3 Meteorological data

131 Meteorological parameters ~~were have been~~ recorded close to the analyzed snow pit KV by an energy balance
132 station (~~KNG8~~, Karner et al., 2013). The station provided data on air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed,
133 wind direction, as well as short- and longwave radiation components, ~~and relative humidity~~. Surface height
134 changes were recorded with an ultrasonic ranger and allowed deriving accumulation ~~rates(precipitation)~~.
135 Temperature corrected raw data were retained for changes of more than 1 cm hr⁻¹ to filter significant events and
136 exclude potentially inaccurate data, which also may be due to potential disturbances by drifting snow. The
137 significance of these events was crosschecked by temperature and humidity criteria. The resulting data were
138 converted to water equivalent using a wind and temperature dependent parameterization of fresh snow density as
139 used in the CROCUS snow model (Vionnet et al., 2012). A scaling factor of 1.1 was applied to achieve
140 consistency with total snow height and average density observed in investigated snow pits. Overall, this
141 procedure yields data of snow accumulation and, thus, represents changes in water equivalent in response to
142 snow precipitation and subsequent redistribution. More details about this procedure as well as about quality
143 control of further recorded meteorological parameters are given in Karner et al. (2013) and Sauter and Oblitner
144 (2015).If the measured surface raised more than 1 cm within one hour, the precipitation amount was calculated
145 using a temperature and wind speed dependent parameterization for the density of fresh snow also used in the

146 ~~Crocus model (Vionnet et al., 2012). As a result a good agreement between observed and simulated increases in~~
147 ~~snow height was obtained.~~ Cloud cover was estimated from the ratio between observed and theoretical incoming
148 shortwave radiation using the method described in Jacobi et al. (2015).

149 **2.4 Snow pack modeling and snow budgets**

150 Simulations for the snow pack on the Kongsvegen glacier were performed with the one-dimensional multi-layer
151 physical snow pack model Crocus (Vionnet et al., 2012; Jacobi et al., 2010a; 2015), which was previously
152 applied for mass-balance simulations of the glacier (Sauter and Obleitner, 2015). The model solves the surface
153 mass and energy budgets taking into account physical processes like heat diffusion, transfer of radiation,
154 densification, sublimation, condensation, and melting. The model is forced using meteorological data
155 ~~including the~~ air temperature, wind speed, relative humidity, precipitation rate and phase, incoming direct and
156 diffuse short-wave radiation, incoming long-wave radiation, and cloud cover. The forcing data for the period
157 September 2011 to March 2012 were generated from observations at the energy balance station KNG8. The
158 model was initiated with an ice layer set to a temperature of 0°C. The output refers to multiple homogeneous
159 horizontal layers that are established according to snowfall events and undergo transformation related to a
160 metamorphism scheme. The model delivers physical properties of each snow layer including thickness, density,
161 temperature, structure parameters and date of accumulation. According to the simulations the oldest conserved
162 snow pack layer was deposited on 30 October 2011. The simulations deliver accumulation dates for each
163 simulated layer, which were used to divide total snow budgets into monthly budgets for October 2011 and March
164 2012. However, the incomplete October budgets were not used for further analysis. Concentrations and densities
165 of the simulated snow layers were used to calculate monthly budgets for each impurity.

166 We estimate an overall uncertainty of 21 % for the snow budgets due to error propagation from the combination
167 of the spatial variability of 20 % (Svensson et al., 2013), the analytical error of 5 % (2.2), and the error of the
168 density measurements of 6 % (Proksch et al., 2016). As a result all calculated (total and monthly) budgets
169 differing by less than 21 % are not considered to be significantly different.

170 **2.5 Atmospheric concentrations**

171 Atmospheric concentrations C_{am} of ionic species in the aerosols were measured at Zeppelin Station at an altitude
172 of 475 m a.s.l.. The aerosols were collected using a three stage filterpack sampler with no size cut off (Aas et al.,
173 2013). The data were downloaded from the EBAS database (ebas.nilu.no) for the period from 30 October 2011
174 to 29 March 2012 as daily averages. Concentrations of atmospheric BC corresponding to equivalent BC (eBC)
175 were determined at the Zeppelin station using the 880 nm channel BC values recorded by a 7-wavelengths AE31
176 aethalometer (Eleftheriadis et al., 2009) using updated parameters for the absorption and attenuation according to
177 Backman et al. (2017) and Zanatta et al. (2018). Daily averages were used for further calculations (see
178 Supplementary Material, Fig. S1). The eBC time series includes 23 missing values (7 days in November, 16 days
179 in December) and 19 values below the detection limit (BDL) of 7 ng m⁻³ in the analyzed period. While the
180 missing values were replaced by the monthly averages, the impact of using either the maximum or minimum
181 value (7 or 0 ng m⁻³) to replace the values BDL remained small for calculated monthly averages (< 0.8 ng m⁻³
182 and < 7%). Therefore, all values BDL were replaced by 3.5 ng m⁻³ equal to half of the detection limit before
183 further calculations.

184 **2.6 Dry and wet deposition**

185 Dry deposition of particles (D_{dry} ; g m^{-2}) was calculated using Eq. (1),

$$186 D_{dry} = C_{atm} \cdot v_d \cdot t \cdot 10^{-6} \quad (1)$$

187 with the deposition velocity v_d in m s^{-1} , the atmospheric concentration of the aerosols C_{atm} in $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, and the
 188 averaging time t for the atmospheric measurements (here 24 h). While wind speed- and particle size-dependent
 189 parameterizations for v_d are available (e.g. Zhang et al., 2001), the use of single values of v_d to estimate dry
 190 deposition fluxes from aerosol concentrations is still standard. Here, we used a high v_d value of 1 cm s^{-1} for the
 191 ionic species assuming that they were mainly associated with coarse sea salt aerosols (Zhang et al., 2001). Thus,
 192 we consider the estimated dry deposition of these components as an upper limit. The gas-phase species nitric
 193 acid (HNO_3) and sulfur dioxide (SO_2) also contribute to the total dry deposition of nitrogen and sulfur, but are
 194 not included in the estimates here. Since bromide was not determined in the aerosols, the standard sea water ratio
 195 and observed sodium concentrations were used to estimate the dry deposition of bromide according to
 196 $D_{wet}(\text{bromide}) = 0.00624 \cdot D_{wet}(\text{sodium})$ (Millero et al., 2008). A smaller v_d of 0.1 cm s^{-1} was used for BC, which
 197 corresponds to a typical global annual mean in many models (Wang et al., 2011) and is within the range of
 198 observed deposition velocities of sub-micron particles over snow (Duan et al., 1988; Contini et al., 2010;
 199 Grönlund et al., 2002). The total and monthly dry deposition was calculated as the sum of the daily deposition
 200 either for the full period or for each month from November 2011 to March 2012.

201 Wet deposition (D_{wet} ; g m^{-2}) was calculated using observed precipitation amounts (P ; L m^{-2}) and chemical
 202 concentrations (C_{precip} ; mg L^{-1}) of the precipitation collected at Ny-Ålesund close to sea level using Eq. (2):

$$203 D_{wet} = C_{precip} \cdot P \cdot 0.001 \quad (2)$$

204 Major sea salt components and nitrate were determined using ion chromatography in precipitation samples
 205 collected on a weekly basis using a bucket funnel system in summer and a snow sampler in winter (Kühnel et al.,
 206 2011; Aas et al., 2013). The data downloaded from the EBAS database (ebas.nilu.no) were used without further
 207 correction, although the bulk sampler likely collected also gaseous compounds and particulate material due to
 208 dry deposition. Especially in periods with high wind speed, the bulk collector may also catch large sea spray
 209 aerosols. However, the exact contribution of dry deposition to the here calculated wet deposition is difficult to
 210 quantify since it depends on the frequency of rain events and episodes with elevated sea salt aerosols. The total
 211 and monthly wet deposition was calculated as the sum for the period from 31 October 2011 to 1 April 2012 and
 212 for each month (except October). No measurements of bromide and BC in the precipitation are available. For
 213 bromide, wet deposition was estimated from the wet deposition of sodium also applying the-standard sea water
 214 ratio composition according to $D_{wet}(\text{bromide}) = 0.00624 \cdot D_{wet}(\text{sodium})$ (Millero et al., 2008). Wet deposition of
 215 BC was estimated according to the scavenging scheme proposed by Sharma et al. (2013). The change in
 216 atmospheric BC concentration $\Delta[BC]$ was estimated using the BC concentration $[BC]$, the scavenging
 217 coefficient (R ; $\text{m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-1}$), the precipitation rate (P , $\text{L m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$) and the time step (Δt , s) according to Eq. (3):

$$218 \Delta[BC] = [BC] \cdot R \cdot P \cdot \Delta t \quad (3)$$

219 We used a scavenging coefficient of $R = 5 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-1}$ as recommended by Sharma et al. (2013). Since all
 220 scavenged atmospheric BC will be mixed into the accumulated weekly snowfall ($(P \cdot \Delta t)$), the BC concentration
 221 in the snow $[BC]_{snow}$ in ppb is calculated according to Eq. (4), where h denotes the depth of the atmospheric
 222 column affected by scavenging:

$$223 [BC]_{snow} = 10^{-9} \cdot [BC] \cdot h \cdot R \quad (4)$$

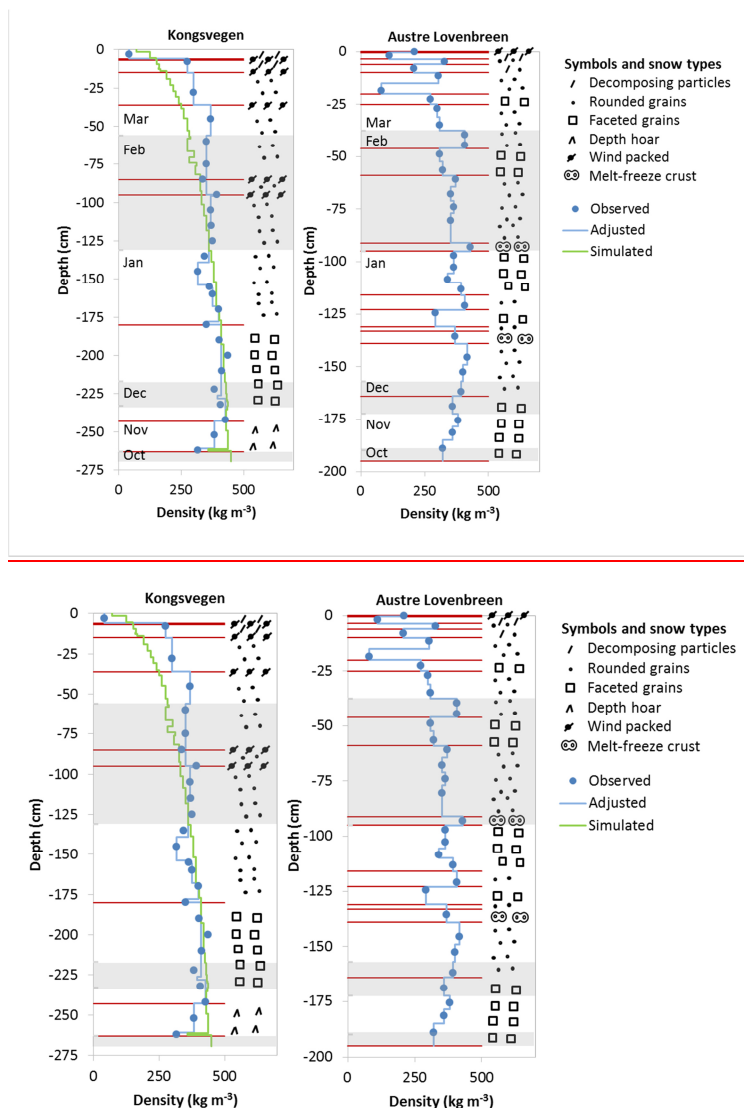
224 Since typical top heights of clouds in the wintertime Arctic are on the order of 4500 m (Intrieri et al., 2002) we
225 used $h = 4500$ m for the tropospheric column concerned by scavenging. BC concentrations in snow were
226 calculated only for weeks with precipitation recorded at Ny-Ålesund and using the observed weekly precipitation
227 rates. For further calculations, we used monthly average BC concentrations in the snow due to scavenging to
228 derive monthly wet deposition according to Eq. (2). Finally, total wet deposition corresponds here to the sum of
229 the monthly wet deposition from November to March.

230 **3 Results and discussion**

231 **3.1 Physical properties of the snow pack**

232 The stratigraphy and densities for the two analyzed snow pits are shown in Fig. 2. The investigated snow layers
233 comprised depths down to -263 cm below the surface for snow pit KV and -195 cm for snow pit AL reaching in
234 both cases the surface of the ice layer formed during the previous summer. While both snow pits showed a
235 typical increase in density from the surface to the deeper layers, the variability in terms of grain types and layer
236 structures was higher for snow pit AL. At an altitude of 670 m a.s.l. the high wind speeds at snow pit KV led to
237 the formation of several wind-packed layers. The impact of significant melting was not identified in the snow pit
238 KV, although the recorded temperatures reached several times values above or close to the melting point (see
239 Supplementary Material, Fig. S2). In contrast, at an altitude of 340 m a.s.l. melting events were more apparent in
240 snow pit AL, which exhibited several melt freeze crusts probably due to warmer periods in November 2011 and
241 January 2012 accompanied by air temperatures above 0°C and large amounts of rain at sea level in Ny-Ålesund.
242 The stronger impact of melting in the snow pit AL was confirmed by the chemical composition. The ratio of
243 magnesium to sodium has been proposed as a melt indicator (Iizuka et al., 2002; Virkkunen et al., 2007; Ginot et
244 al., 2010) with lower ratios caused by the preferential removal of magnesium due to percolating water. While the
245 average magnesium to sodium ratios were around 0.12 in both snow pits, in snow pit AL the variability was
246 higher and minimum values lower. Smallest ratios were encountered in layers deposited in November, January,
247 and March corresponding to the months with elevated air temperatures. Nevertheless, in both snow pits the ratios
248 did not reach the small ratios as observed in ice cores from Svalbard (Iizuka et al., 2002; Virkkunen et al., 2007).
249 Therefore, a ~~certain~~ redistribution of the impurities probably occurred in the snow pack due to melting with a
250 stronger impact on the Austre Lovénbreen glacier. This is, however, unlikely to have led to, but not a complete
251 elution/removal. While the impact was stronger on the Austre Lovénbreen glacier Hence, the overall budgets of
252 both snow pits are assumed to be mostly unaffected by melting, seemed not to be influenced.

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Fig. 2: Snow stratigraphy observed in the snow pits KV (left) and AL (right). Note the different depth scales. Snow types are indicated on the right side using the classification recommended by Fierz et al. (2009) with layers separated by horizontal red lines. Blue circles indicate observed snow densities, vertical blue lines correspond to snow densities adjusted to observed and sampled layers. The green line shows snow densities simulated with the Crocus model for snow pit KV. The alternating shaded and non-shaded areas correspond from the top to the months March to October.

260 Together with the stratigraphy, full snow density profiles were established for both pits as shown in Fig. 2.
261 According to these profiles, the total accumulation amounts to 943 and 667 mm snow water equivalent (SWE)
262 for the snow pits KV and AL. The accumulation in the pit KV was close to the maximum observed in the years
263 2007 to 2009 at altitudes above 600 m on the Kongsvegen glacier (Forsström et al., 2013). The observed
264 accumulation of precipitation at Ny-Ålesund close to sea level corresponds to a value of 278 mm for the period
265 from 31 October 2011 to 01 April 2012. The gradient in accumulation between the snow pits KV, AL, and Ny-
266 Ålesund was slightly higher than 30 % per 100 m altitude increase and is, thus, close to accumulation gradients
267 previously applied for the nearby Midre Lovénbreen and Austre Brøggerbreen glaciers (Hodson et al., 2005).
268 Crocus model results obtained for the snow pit KV were used here for further analysis. The snow pack simulated
269 for 29 March 2012 consists of 50 layers with varying densities covering a total depth of -269.4 cm (Fig. 2). The
270 densities below -80 cm are well represented by the model, but the densities between -10 and -80 cm are
271 underestimated compared to the observations. While density measurements using a cutter suffer from a
272 systematic overestimation (Proksch et al., 2016), a strong bias in simulated snow densities in the top layers is

273 common for snow models applied to polar regions (e.g. Groot Zwaafink et al., 2013). Despite the differences in
274 the top layers, the simulated total SWE of 937 mm is in excellent agreement with the observed SWE. Shaded
275 areas in Fig. 2 indicate the different layers deposited in the months from October 2011 to March 2012 according
276 to the simulations. Only complete identified snow layers were attributed to specific months. Assuming a constant
277 linear decrease in accumulation from the snow pit KV to AL, monthly layers were also attributed to snow pit AL
278 with linearly interpolated depth ranges using the ratio of the total snow heights of both pits (Fig. 2).

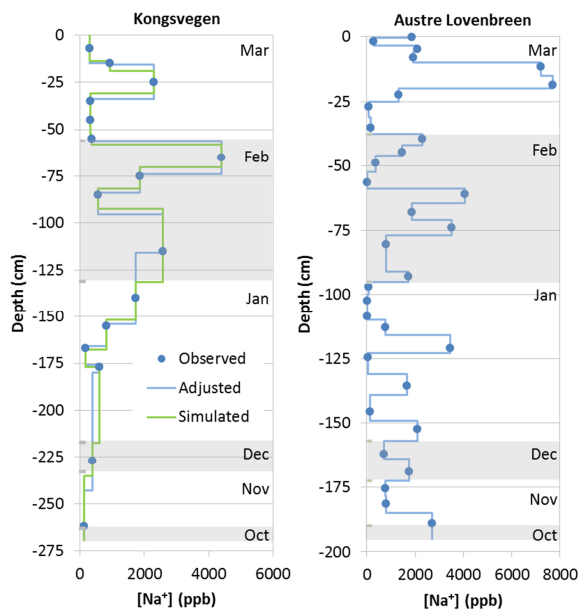
279 3.2 Impurity profiles in the snow pack

280 Co-located impurity profiles were established for each measured compound combining the measured
281 concentrations with either the observed stratigraphy for both snow pits or the simulated stratigraphy for snow pit
282 KV. Profiles were established by assuming homogeneous concentrations for the identified snow layers and by
283 adjusting the closest observed concentrations to the vertical extent of the observed or simulated layers. Figure 3
284 shows as examples the observed sodium and rBC concentrations as well as the profiles. Some common features
285 can be identified for sodium in the upper part of both snow pits. Snow pit KV showed three layers with elevated
286 concentrations: a first peak in the March layer around -25 cm, and a double peak in the February layer with a
287 maximum around -60 cm and a broad maximum below -100 cm (Fig. 3a). A comparable pattern was found in
288 snow pit AL with the strongest peak in the March layer at -20 cm and two maxima in February at -40 cm and a
289 broad peak between -60 and -90 cm (Fig. 3b). However, the relative strengths of the peaks are different in the
290 two pits. While these differences may be caused by site-dependent deposition fluxes. For example, strong
291 vertical gradients in aerosol concentrations between the altitudes of the snow pits as sometimes observed for BC
292 (Spolaor et al., 2017) have a direct impact on the local deposition fluxes. However, the differences in the profiles
293 they may also be related to melt-water formation and percolation, which likely had a stronger impact on snow pit
294 AL. This may have contributed also to the higher variability of sodium in the lower part of the snow pit AL
295 compared to KV. Moreover, peaks may have been missed at KV because of the larger spacing between the
296 samples.

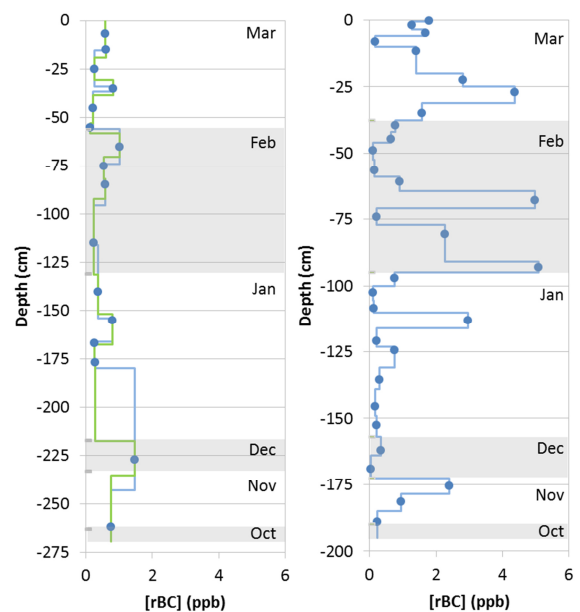
297 The lowest concentrations of all studied impurities were found for rBC. Average rBC concentrations differed by
298 a factor of two between the two locations with 0.6 ppb at KV (Fig. 3c) and 1.2 ppb at AL (Fig. 3d). The average
299 concentration at AL is in good agreement with the average rBC concentration of (1.4 ± 0.2) ppb for the snow
300 pack accumulated during the winter 2012/2013 on the Brøggerbreen glacier at 300 m altitude (Sinha et al.,
301 2018). However, the concentrations are lower than elemental carbon (EC) measured with a thermo-optical
302 method in samples from the Kongsvegen glacier above 600 m a.s.l, where Forsström et al. (2013) found median
303 concentrations of 1.4, 4.2, and 3.8 ppb in April 2007, 2008, and 2009. It should be noted here and during all
304 further discussion, that the comparison of the different quantities EC, eBC, and rBC introduces additional
305 uncertainties. For example, a previous comparison of EC and rBC in snow samples from Greenland indicated a
306 mean ratio of two (Lim et al., 2014), while atmospheric rBC and eBC measurements in Ny-Ålesund are more
307 consistent if adjusted absorption properties are used (Zanatta et al., 2018). These uncertainties may partly explain
308 the differences in the determined concentrations. While an overall decrease of atmospheric BC concentrations in
309 the Arctic (Sinha et al., 2017) potentially contributed to lower concentrations in 2012 compared to the years
310 2007 to 2009, the impact is difficult to analyze due to large inter-annual meteorological variabilities impacting
311 the transport of BC to the Arctic (Eleftheriadis et al., 2009; Hirdmann et al., 2010) occasionally leading to high

312 pollution events in wintertime (e.g. Winiger et al., 2012). Melting processes probably caused the higher
313 variability of BC in the AL pit since insoluble particles show enrichments at the snow surface generating layers
314 with enhanced concentrations in the Arctic (Forsström et al., 2013).

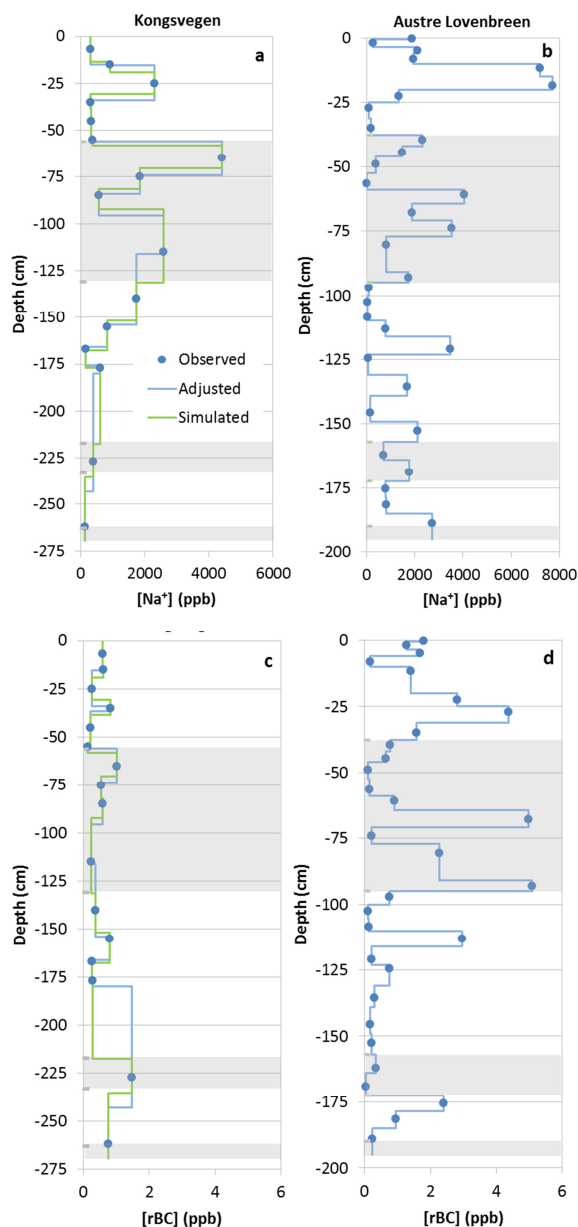
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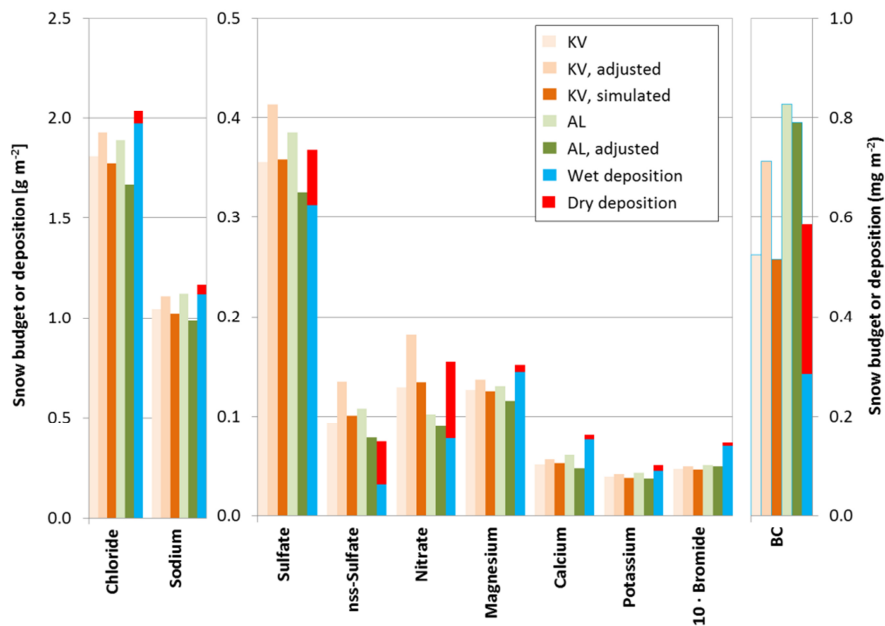
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318
319 **Fig. 3: Sodium (top) and rBC concentrations (bottom) in the snow pits KV (left) and AL (right). Blue circles indicate**
320 **observed concentrations and blue lines correspond to concentrations adjusted to the observed stratigraphy. The green**
321 **line shows concentrations adjusted to the simulated stratigraphy for the snow pit KV. The alternating shaded and**
322 **non-shaded areas correspond from the top to the months March to October.**

323 3.3 Wintertime snow budgets and deposition of ionic compounds

324 Total snow budgets of all measured compounds for the two snow pits were calculated using three different
325 approaches: (i) simple budgets were determined by multiplying the average concentrations by the total SWE; (ii)
326 adjusted budgets were calculated from the interpolated density profile shown in Fig. 2 and co-located
327 concentration profiles like in Fig. 3; (iii) for snow pit KV simulated budgets were obtained by combining the
328 simulated density profiles with simulated concentration profiles. All calculated budgets are summarized in Fig.
329 4, which also shows the observed wet deposition at Ny-Ålesund and the estimated total dry aerosol deposition
330 for the period from 31 October 2011 to 29 March 2012. According to the meteorological records of the
331 Norwegian Meteorological Service (eklima.met.no) no further precipitation occurred between 29 March and 15
332 April 2012 and the total wet deposition can, thus, be compared to the budget of the snow pit AL.



333 Fig. 4: Snow budgets of sea salt components, nss-sulfate, nitrate and bromide (left and middle) and BC (right) for the
 334 snow pits KV (Kongsvegen, brown) and AL (Austre Lovénbreen, green) for October 2011 to March 2012 according to
 335 different calculation methods: simple budgets from average concentrations and total SWE (light colors), adjusted
 336 budgets using co-located concentration and density profiles (middle colors), and simulated budgets for KV using
 337 interpolated concentration and simulated density profiles (dark colors). Also shown is the total deposition as the sum
 338 of observed wet deposition at Ny-Ålesund (blue) and estimated dry particle deposition (red). For bromide the wet
 339 deposition was estimated from the standard sea water ratio and all numbers are multiplied by ten. For BC the snow
 340 budgets correspond to rBC, while the wet deposition was estimated for the KV snow pit. The BC deposition
 341 corresponds to eBC. See text for further details.
 342

343 Due to ~~differences smaller than 21% in their budgets, errors of the manual snow density measurements, the~~
 344 ~~chemical analysis, and the extrapolation of the density and concentration profiles~~, it can be assumed that
 345 differences ~~in the budgets below 20 % as obtained~~ for chloride, sodium, magnesium, calcium, and potassium are
 346 not significant. The spatial variability of snow concentrations at a scale of meters can be even larger (e.g.
 347 Svensson et al., 2013). Thus, the total snow budgets for the pits KV and AL reveal a consistent picture for the
 348 sea salt components chloride, sodium, magnesium, potassium, and bromide (Fig. 4) with insignificant
 349 differences in the observed total budgets despite differences in ~~For these species neither the method for the~~
 350 ~~calculation of the total budgets, the location, the altitude and, nor the accumulation led to significant differences~~
 351 ~~in the observed total budgets~~. This is consistent with recent observations revealing characteristic patterns of
 352 aerosol concentrations along Svalbard glaciers including the Kongsvegen demonstrating consistent formation,
 353 transport, and exchange processes between the atmosphere and the snow (Spolaor et al., 2017).

354 If post-depositional processes are negligible, the total snow budgets of the impurities correspond to the input due
 355 to the sum of the wet and dry deposition. Based on the comparison of the total snow budgets with the observed
 356 wet deposition, the estimated dry deposition ~~isare~~ evaluated for the different impurities. The total snow budgets
 357 of chloride, sodium, magnesium, and potassium agree well with the observed wet deposition at Ny-Ålesund with
 358 differences smaller than 20 % for the period from October 2011 to March/April 2012. However, the recorded
 359 wet deposition also includes variable contributions from dry deposition since the precipitation samples were
 360 collected with an open bucket instrument (Kühnel et al., 2011). Nevertheless, the estimated dry deposition
 361 corresponds to less than 5 % of the wet deposition of chloride, sodium, and magnesium and reaches a maximum
 362 of 14 % for potassium (Fig. 4). Subtracting the nss-sulfate from the total sulfate shows that the dry deposition of
 363 sulfate with marine origin also corresponds to less than 5 % of the total wet deposition. Since the estimated dry

364 deposition is considered as an upper limit, it can be assumed that its contribution for the total snow budget on the
365 Kongsvegen and Austre Lovenbreen glaciers during the period November 2011 to April 2012 remained small for
366 chloride, sodium, magnesium, potassium, and sea salt sulfate. The estimated wet deposition for bromide based
367 on sodium concentrations and the standard sea water ratio leads to an overestimation of more than 40 %
368 compared to the observed bromide in the snow pack (Fig. 4). This demonstrates that sea salt bromide is
369 undergoing important modifications during the formation of sea salt aerosols, in the atmosphere, or after
370 deposition (see Sect. 3.7).

371 Like for the sea salt components, a good agreement between the KV snow budget of nitrate and nss-sulfate and
372 the total deposition during the period from October 2011 to April 2012 is found. For these two compounds the
373 observed wet deposition at Ny-Ålesund remains significantly below the snow budget, while the missing fractions
374 are largely compensated by the estimated dry deposition. For nitrate, the dry deposition is comparable to the wet
375 deposition, whereas for nss-sulfate dry deposition even dominates the snow budget. The adjusted budgets of the
376 snow pit AL show ~50 % less nitrate and ~40 % less nss-sulfate compared to KV (Fig. 4), which may be related
377 to the spatial variability of the dry deposition of the two species.

378 3.4 Wintertime snow budgets and deposition of BC

379 | Regarding the snow budgets, the differences in the rBC profiles and the average rBC concentrations are partly
380 compensated by the different accumulation for the two snow pits. The simple, adjusted, and simulated snow
381 budgets vary between 0.51 and 0.71 mg m⁻² for KV and 0.79 and 0.83 mg m⁻² for AL and are, thus, between 10
382 and 60 % higher at AL compared to KV. Albeit the difference between EC and rBC (see Sect. 3.2), it appears
383 that the derived rBC budget for KV remain well below the EC budgets for 2007 to 2009 for the Kongsvegen
384 glacier (Forsström et al., 2013). In contrast, the AL budget is somewhat above the rBC budget for the
385 Brøggerbreen glacier of 0.49 mg m⁻² determined in April 2013 (Sinha et al., 2018). These differences, which are
386 partly related to the different detection methods for BC, are probably also related to the inter-annual
387 variability of BC as reflected in the atmospheric observations (Eleftheriadis et al., 2009).

388 The BC deposition derived here only relies on estimated values for scavenging and dry deposition velocities.
389 | Nevertheless, the monthly averages of the estimated BC concentrations in fresh snow due to scavenging
390 vary from 0.2 ppb in October to 0.8 ppb in March. The March average is in very good agreement with the
391 three fresh snow samples collected in March 2012, which showed rBC concentrations of 0.47, 0.72, and 0.97
392 ppb, respectively. Moreover, these estimated concentrations are in agreement with average eBC concentrations
393 in fresh snow samples collected in April and November in the years 2012 to 2017 on the glaciers surrounding
394 Ny-Ålesund ranging from 0.9 to 2 ppb (Gogoi et al., 2018). Finally, Noone and Clarke (1988) proposed a
395 dimensionless scavenging ratio (SR) corresponding to the quotient of the atmospheric and snow
396 concentration of BC. Using the observed atmospheric BC and the estimated BC concentrations in snow we
397 derive SRs of approximately 30, which agree with the lower end of SRs for the Ny-Ålesund area (Gogoi et al.,
398 2016; 2018).

399 The anti-correlation between accumulation and the average BC concentrations in the two snow pits points to an
400 important contribution of dry deposition, which is in agreement with the estimated dry and wet deposition of BC.
401 The dry deposition of eBC (Fig. 4) derived with a deposition velocity of 0.1 cm s⁻¹ corresponds to approximately
402 half of the observed rBC budget at KV and is, thus, somewhat higher than the contribution due to wet deposition.

403 Despite the overall uncertainty related to the simplified methods for the estimation of the BC deposition, the
404 difference between the snow budgets and the total deposition remain below 25 % for the KV and below 45 % for
405 the AL snow pit. This important contribution of dry deposition is in contrast to wet and total deposition reported
406 for Ny-Ålesund for the winter 2012/2013 based on rBC measurements in falling snow and in the snow pack
407 (Sinha et al., 2018). From these observations it was concluded that the dry deposition of rBC remained
408 negligible. However, the authors also reported rBC fluxes at 300 m altitude on the Broggerbreen glacier, which
409 were twice as high as in Ny-Ålesund. While Sinha et al. (2018) claim that this increase is mainly due to the
410 higher accumulation on the glacier, additional dry deposition at higher altitudes cannot be excluded. Moreover,
411 the potential contamination of the snow pack close to Ny-Ålesund due to local power generation or a potential
412 mismatch between the budgets of the falling snow and the snow pack due to the removal by blowing snow were
413 not considered.

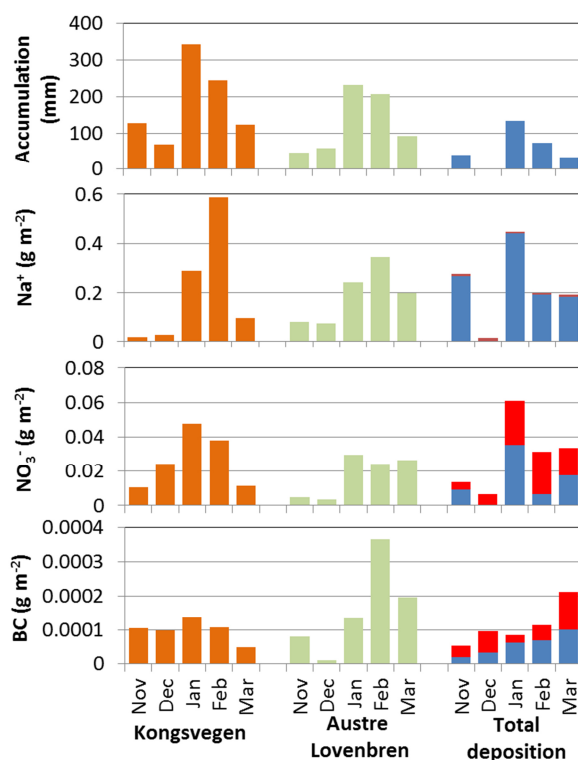
414 Previous model studies have indicated that BC in the Arctic is primarily removed through wet deposition (e.g.
415 Flanner et al., 2007; Wang et al., 2011). However, in the models the dry deposition velocity of BC was often
416 reduced to improve the simulated atmospheric concentrations of BC. Moreover, the here observed wintertime
417 deposition may not be extrapolated to the entire Arctic since the BC deposition depends on multiple factors like
418 air mass transport, aging processes of atmospheric BC particles, and ice nucleation (e.g. Sharma et al., 2013; Liu
419 et al., 2011; Vergara-Temprado et al., 2018)

420 **3.5 Comparison of monthly snow budgets and deposition**

421 To derive a higher temporal resolution of the snow budgets monthly snow budgets were calculated from layers
422 deposited in each month between November 2011 and March 2012. The monthly budgets are further compared
423 to monthly wet and dry deposition. Each weekly wet deposition was attributed to the month with the largest
424 overlap in time to derive the monthly wet deposition, while the monthly dry deposition was calculated from the
425 daily dry deposition. Monthly total deposition was calculated as the sum of the corresponding wet and dry
426 deposition. Figure 5 shows as example the results for sodium, nitrate, and BC. Results similar to sodium were in
427 general obtained for the other sea salt components. The dominating role of wet deposition for sodium and other
428 sea salt components and the larger contribution of dry deposition for nitrate and BC are also reflected in the
429 monthly budgets. For the months with recorded precipitation at Ny-Ålesund, the wet deposition of sea salt
430 components largely dominates the total deposition. This is in contrast to nitrate and BC, which show several
431 monthly budgets with higher values for dry than wet deposition.

432 The generally good agreement between the total budgets of the two snow pits and the wet and dry deposition
433 (Fig. 4) is only partly confirmed by the monthly budgets shown in Fig. 5. For example, the monthly budgets of
434 sodium show a much more pronounced variability at KV compared to AL. In contrast, the monthly total
435 deposition shows a very low value for December due to the lack of wet deposition observed at Ny-Ålesund and
436 no clear cycle for the remaining months. Similar results are obtained for other sea-salt components. In general,
437 differences are caused by multiple reasons related to uncertainties in the ~~forcing data, in the snow~~ model results,
438 the corresponding forcing data as well as in the spatial variability of the observations in the snow, wet
439 deposition, and aerosol concentrations. Moreover, post-depositional processes modifying the derived monthly
440 snow budgets like blowing snow or melting processes are currently not taken into account in the simulations.

441 Nevertheless, it appears that for compounds with a larger contribution of dry deposition the agreement between
 442 snow budgets and total deposition is somewhat better like in the cases of nitrate and BC (Fig. 5).



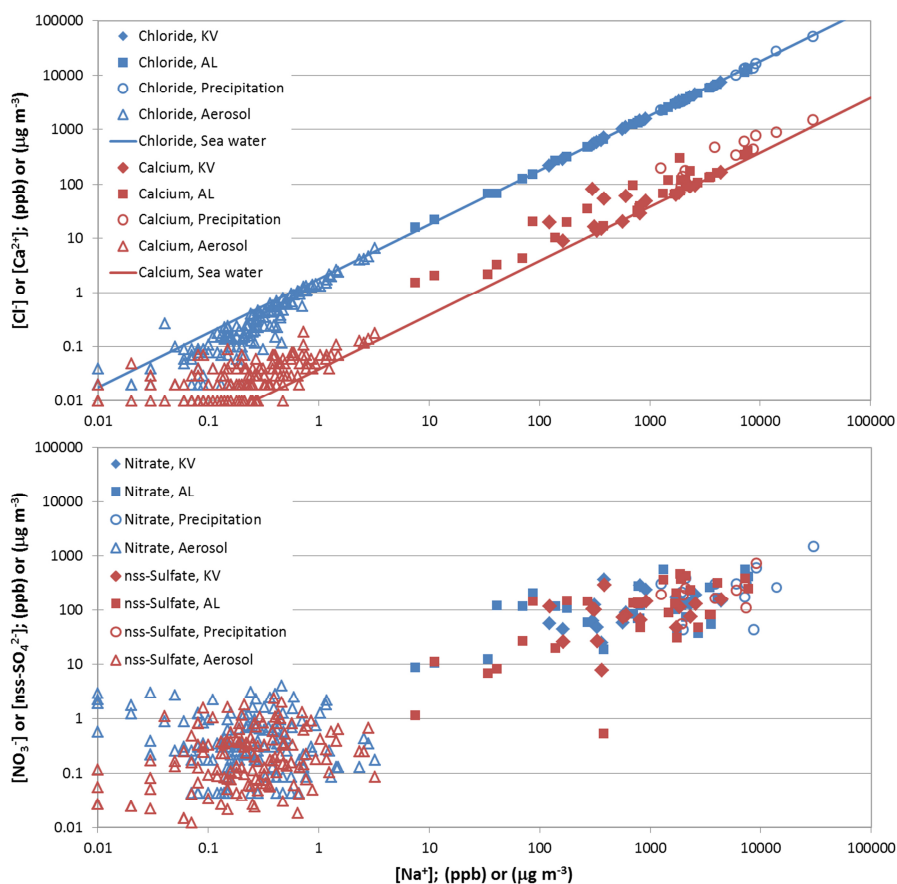
443 Fig. 5: Monthly accumulation and snow budgets for sodium, nitrate, and BC for the snow pits KV (Kongsvegen,
 444 orange) and AL (Austre Lovénbreen, green) according to the simulated profiles. Also shown is the observed
 445 accumulation at Ny-Alesund (top, blue) and the total deposition divided into wet (blue) and dry (red) deposition. For
 446 sodium and nitrate the wet deposition was measured at Ny-Ålesund and the wet deposition for BC was estimated from
 447 scavenging. The BC snow budgets correspond to rBC, while the wet and dry depositions correspond to eBC.
 448

449 3.6 Variations of the chemical composition of snow, aerosols, and precipitation

450 Variation diagrams showing the concentrations of two trace compounds are often exploited to determine
 451 common sources or processes acting upon the correlated species. Here, the ratios of concentrations in the
 452 atmosphere, the precipitation, and the snow are used to study the transfer processes from the atmosphere to the
 453 snow. Figure 6 shows the variation of chloride vs sodium for the period from October 2011 to April 2012 in
 454 aerosols at Zeppelin Station, in the precipitation at Ny-Ålesund, and in the snow pits KV and AL. Most of the
 455 chloride-to-sodium ratios in the aerosols are close to the standard sea water ratio (Millero et al., 2008) indicating
 456 that in the marine environment around Ny-Ålesund the composition of the aerosols is dominated by sea salt.
 457 Some aerosol samples show dechlorination likely caused by the replacement of chlorine ions due to the uptake of
 458 sulfuric and nitric acid (Keene et al., 1998). Figure 6 demonstrates further that the impact of the dechlorination
 459 becomes visible only during periods with low atmospheric loading of sea salt aerosols with less than $1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$
 460 sodium. Such a dechlorination, however, is masked in the precipitation and snow samples, which were all close
 461 to the standard sea water ratio. In summary, in wintertime the composition of the majority of the aerosols as well
 462 as the precipitation around Ny-Ålesund is dominated by sea salt aerosols confirming previous studies of
 463 individual aerosol particles (Weinbruch et al., 2012). This leads to the same chemical imprint in the snow pack.
 464 Magnesium and potassium show a similar variation with sodium (not shown), except that some aerosol samples
 465 showed elevated potassium concentrations possibly due to potassium-enriched dust particles from soils.

466 Nevertheless, the variation in the precipitation samples confirms that the contribution of dry aerosol deposition
 467 remained small also for these compounds with respect to the overall observed budget of the snow pits.
 468

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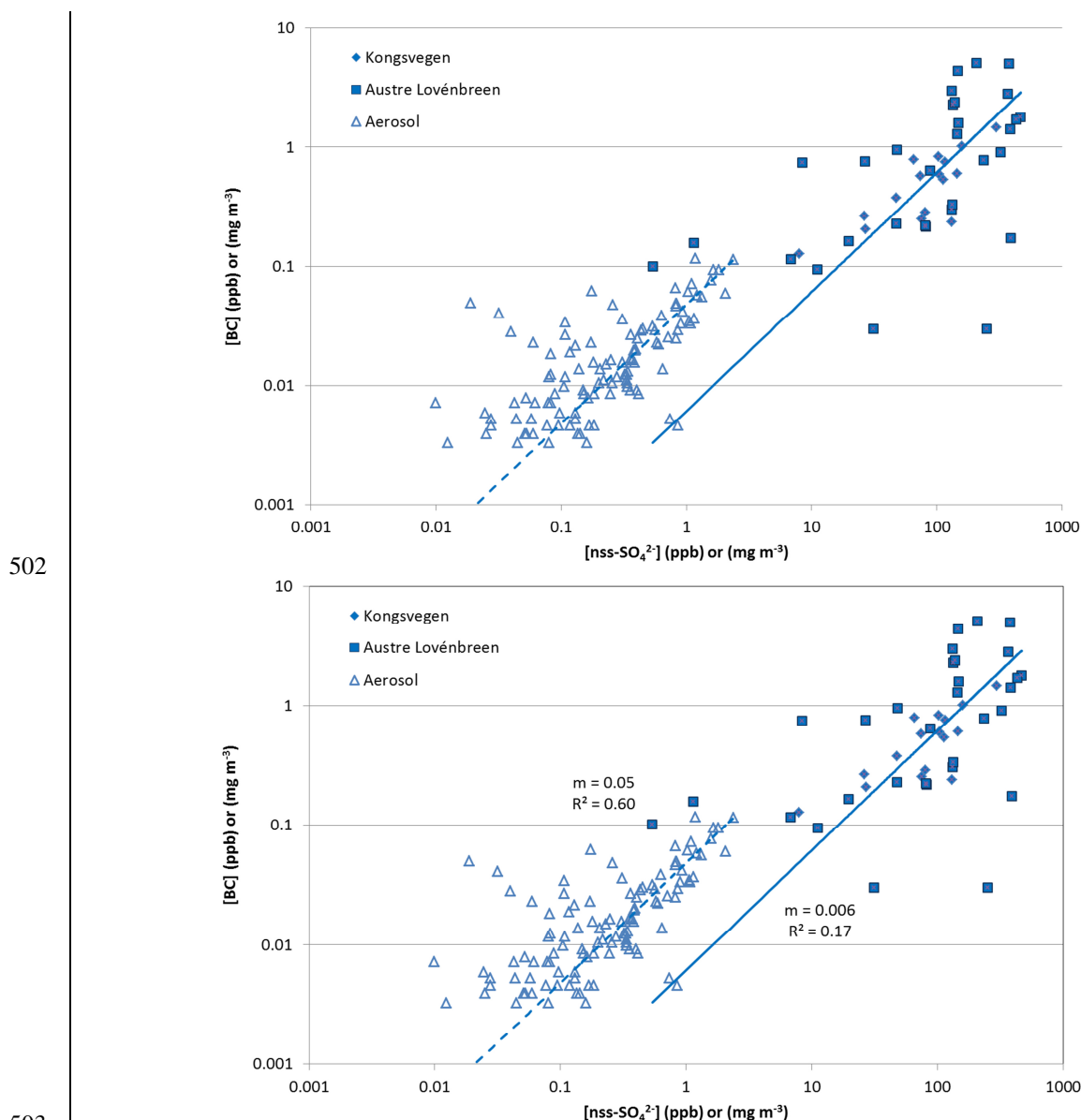


470 **Fig. 6, upper panel: Chloride (blue) and calcium (red) concentrations vs. sodium concentrations in snow pit KV (filled**
 471 **diamonds) and AL (filled squares), in precipitation (open circles) and in aerosols (open triangles). Aerosol**
 472 **concentrations are in $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and are derived from measurements at Zeppelin Station. The lines indicate the standard**
 473 **sea water ratio. Lower panel: Same as top, but for nitrate (blue) and nss-sulfate (red).**
 474

475 Calcium shows a different behavior compared to the other major sea salt components with a significant
 476 enrichment of calcium in the aerosols as well as in the precipitation, which ~~results in also causes~~ calcium-to-
 477 sodium ratios above standard sea water in a large number of snow samples (Fig. 6). Such an enrichment in the
 478 Arctic may be attributed to calcium-rich aerosols originating from soils (Toom-Saunty and Barrie, 2002; Geng
 479 et al., 2010; Jacobi et al., 2012; Weinbruch et al., 2012) although local aerosol formation was probably limited
 480 due to the extended snow cover. The in- or below-cloud scavenging of dust particles likely contributed to the
 481 transfer of the elevated calcium concentrations from the aerosols to the precipitation and to the snow.

482 Like demonstrated in previous studies (e.g. Jacobi et al., 2012), nitrate and nss-sulfate in aerosols, in the
 483 precipitation, and in the snow do not exhibit a constant ratio compared to sodium (Fig. 6). ~~On average, The~~
 484 highest ~~and lowest~~ ratios are found in the aerosols and the lowest ratios in the precipitation with the average
 485 snow pack ratio in between these values. This confirms that the nitrate and nss-sulfate in the snowpack can be
 486 attributed to a mixture of wet deposition and dry deposition of aerosols. Although in wintertime the reactive
 487 nitrogen budget is dominated by particulate nitrate (Hara et al., 1999), a further dry deposition of gas phase
 488 species to the snow is possible, which may be even more important than the aerosol deposition (Björkman et al.,
 489 2013).

490 Due to the different sources of BC and sodium (long-range transport vs local or regional formation of sea salt
 491 aerosols), no consistent BC-to-sodium variation is found in the aerosols (Supplementary material, Fig. S3).
 492 Similarly, the variation of BC in the snow pits is also independent of the sodium concentrations. Since BC
 493 particles are preferentially coated by organic matter or sulfate (Liu et al., 2011), atmospheric BC shows a **linear**
 494 **positive** relationship to nss-sulfate resulting in a **coefficient of determination** R^2 of 0.60 (Fig.
 495 7). In the snowpack, the rBC-to-nss-sulfate ratios are less consistent and the average ratio is almost one order of
 496 magnitude smaller than in the **atmosphere aerosols**. Despite the different measurement techniques for BC in the
 497 aerosols and in the snow, the lower BC-to-nss-sulfate ratio in the snow can only partly be explained by the
 498 different measurement methods. Different ratios in the snow may be caused by the smaller contribution of wet to
 499 total deposition of BC as compared to nss-sulfate (Fig. 4). Moreover, the AL snow pit shows a higher variability
 500 in the BC-to-nss-sulfate variation than the KV snow pit (Fig. 7) indicating that redistribution of the impurities
 501 caused by melting probably also impacted BC and nss-sulfate.

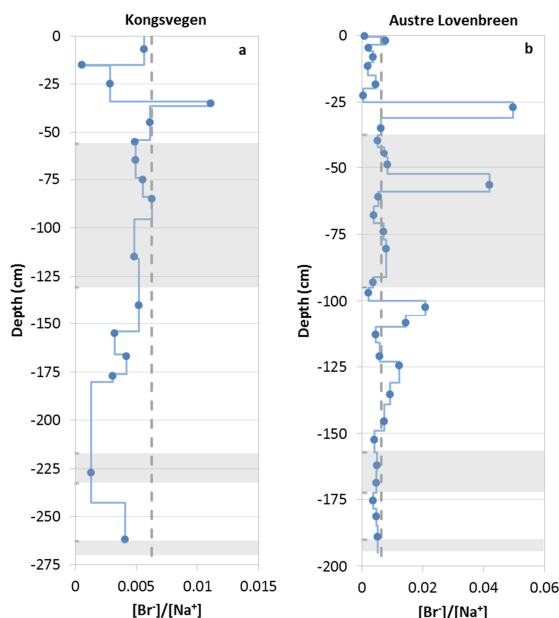
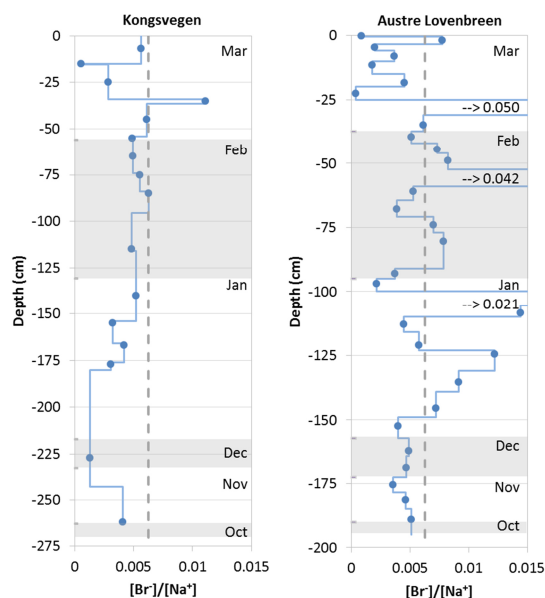


504 **Fig. 7: BC vs. nss-sulfate concentrations in snow pit KV (filled diamonds) and AL (filled squares), and in aerosols**
 505 **(open triangles). The lines calculated by linear regression with the slopes m and coefficient of determination R^2 are**
 506 **forced through the origin and separated for the aerosol and the snow samples. BC in the snow pits corresponds to**
 507 **rBC, while the BC in aerosols corresponds to eBC.**

508 **3.7 Bromide in the snowpack**

509 Since no bromide concentrations in the aerosols and in the precipitation are available, the ratio between bromide
510 and sodium is shown in the form of profiles for the snow pits KV and AL (Fig. 8). The ratio between the overall
511 bromide and sodium budgets varies between 0.0045 for KV and 0.005 for AL and is, thus, below the standard
512 sea water ratio of 0.00624 (Millero et al., 2008). Only distinct layers show enrichments of bromide (Fig. 8).
513 Multiple photochemical processes occur in the sea ice-snow-atmosphere system of the Arctic acting upon the
514 variation between bromide and sodium (Simpson et al., 2007; Jacobi et al., 2012). On solid surfaces (aerosols,
515 snow, sea ice) bromide can be transformed into volatile bromine compounds that are released to the atmosphere
516 and are subsequently deposited. Therefore, bromide can be depleted already in the sea salt aerosols generated
517 over sea ice, which would cause a wet and dry deposition flux lower than estimated based on the standard sea
518 water ration, or it can be diminished in the surface snow after deposition (Jacobi et al., 2012) explaining the
519 average bromide-to-sodium ratios below the sea water ratio in both snow pits. Nevertheless, since the released
520 bromide is subsequently deposited, a snow pack with layers enriched in bromide is also possible depending on
521 the dominating influence of the release vs the additional deposition of bromide (Simpson et al., 2007). This can
522 also explain the contrasting results found on top of the Holtedahlfonna glacier, located approximately 40 km to
523 the Northeast of Ny-Ålesund in April 2012. Spolaor et al. (2013) reported that the snow pack was highly
524 enriched in bromide with only a few samples close to the sea water ratio potentially caused by the additional
525 deposition of bromide after release from sea ice-covered areas of the Arctic Ocean. It is well known that such
526 activation of bromide mainly occurs in springtime after polar sunrise explaining the low bromide budgets in the
527 KV and AL snow pits in the winter period. Since the bromine activation over sea ice also leads to a significant
528 destruction of tropospheric ozone (Jacobi et al., 2010b), the ozone record at Zeppelin Station may be used as a
529 proxy for the impact of bromine-rich air masses at Ny-Ålesund and the surrounding area. The ozone
530 concentration during the entire period covered by the snow pits remained above 35 ppbV and dropped to ~20
531 ppbV on the afternoon of 29 March (data accessible at ebas.nilu.no) indicating that the influence of bromine-
532 enriched air remained small in spring 2012 before the sampling of the snow pits. Finally, meteorological
533 conditions in Ny-Ålesund are less sensitive to the sea ice extent than other locations in Svalbard according to a
534 study of precipitation trends (Osuch and Wawrzyniak, 2016). Thus, the distinct peaks in the bromide-to-sodium
535 in the snow pit AL, which occurred in layers attributed to early March, late-February, and late January are
536 probably not caused by additional deposition as a consequence of bromine explosion events, but are possibly
537 related to the influence of melting. Accordingly, these high ratios are not produced by enhanced bromide, but by
538 low sodium concentrations. In summary, the potential use of bromide enrichment as proxy for the bromine
539 activation and, thus, sea ice extent as developed by Spolaor et al. (2013) for the Holtedahlfonna record appears
540 rather limited for the snow pack and glaciers around Ny-Ålesund due to a restricted impact of sea ice conditions
541 in this region.

542



543 **Fig. 8: Bromide-to-sodium ratio in the snow pits KV (left) and AL (right). Blue circles indicate observed ratios; blue**
 544 **lines correspond to ratios adjusted to the observed stratigraphy. The alternating shaded and non-shaded areas**
 545 **correspond from the top to the months November, December, January, February, and March to October (from the**
 546 **bottom). The vertical dashed grey lines indicate the standard sea water ratio. The values for three peaks in the**
 547 **snowpit AL beyond the range of the scale are indicated.**
 548

549 **4 Conclusion**

550 The chemical composition of aerosols, precipitation, and the snow pack was analyzed for Ny-Alesund, Svalbard.
 551 The results concerning the snow budgets, the wet deposition, and the ratios of the different components in the
 552 snow pack, in the precipitation, and in the aerosols underline the importance of wet deposition for the major sea-
 553 salt components chloride, sodium, potassium, magnesium, and sulfate during the winter period from October
 554 2011 to March 2012 confirming previous studies (Isaksson et al., 2003; Weinbruch et al., 2012; Geng et al.,
 555 2010). The significant contribution of wet deposition is further supported by the estimated upper limit maximum

556 | of the dry ~~aerosol~~ deposition. Although the choice of the deposition velocity introduces considerable uncertainty,
557 the estimated dry deposition remains well below 10 % of the total deposition for chloride, sodium, and
558 magnesium, while it contributes more than 20 % to the snow budget of calcium and potassium probably due to a
559 stronger dust contribution. It is possible that the relatively high overall accumulation including strong
560 precipitation events in the last week of January contributed to the high input due to wet deposition during the
561 winter 2011/2012. Therefore, the contribution of dry deposition of sea salt aerosols could be larger during winter
562 periods with different precipitation characteristics. Nevertheless, it appears that the wet deposition measurements
563 at Ny-Ålesund can be used to estimate the total wintertime deposition of the major sea salt components in the
564 areas surrounding Ny-Ålesund.

565 In contrast to the major sea salt components the dry deposition of nitrate and nss-sulfate was more important
566 than the wet deposition. However, the dry deposition of the corresponding gas phase species like HNO₃ and SO₂
567 are not well quantified (e.g. Zhang et al., 2001; Osada et al., 2010) and probably contributed also to the observed
568 snow budgets of nitrate and sulfate. Further direct measurements of the dry deposition of all N-containing
569 species and nss-sulfate would be needed to better quantify the full N- and S-cycle in the Arctic.

570 The obtained results for the snow budgets and the deposition of BC indicate a behavior of BC resembling nitrate
571 and nss-sulfate. In the wintertime the deposition of BC to the snowpack on the glaciers surrounding Ny-Ålesund
572 appears to be equally driven by dry and wet deposition. However, it is important to note the large uncertainties in
573 the estimated BC deposition, for which direct measurements in the Arctic are needed. Overall, the average rBC
574 concentrations in the wintertime snowpack remained below 1.2 ppb and, thus, causing a marginal reduction of
575 | the snow albedo (e.g. Jacobi et al. 2015). In contrast, post-depositional processes are likely at the origin of snow
576 layers with rBC concentrations increased by a factor of three compared to the average. Such layers may cause a
577 stronger direct and indirect impact on the snow albedo via enhanced metamorphism processes (e.g. Jacobi et al.,
578 2015). Further studies with detailed observations of the vertical BC distribution in the snow pack are required for
579 a better quantification of the climate impact of BC in snow.

580 Bromide is the sea salt compound showing the strongest variability in the ratio to other major components like
581 sodium, which is related to its high mobility in the sea ice-atmosphere-snow system caused by chemical
582 processes. Systematic measurements of bromide not only in the snowpack, but also in the aerosols, in the
583 precipitation, and in fresh snow are required to further investigate processes before the formation of the sea salt
584 aerosols, during their transport, or after the deposition to the snow pack.

585 While the annual budgets and estimated deposition for most of the studied species agree well, the results for the
586 monthly budgets obtained with the detailed snowpack modeling are less convincing. Further improvements
587 regarding the modeling of the Arctic snow pack are needed to better address physical properties (e.g. the
588 evolution of the snow density) and post-depositional processes acting upon the vertical distribution of impurities
589 in the snow pack. Although the treatment of impurities was recently implemented into the Crocus snowpack
590 model (Tuzet et al., 2017), the impact of processes modifying the vertical distribution of impurities in the Arctic
591 snowpack like blowing snow, sublimation, and percolation are still not fully considered in most models. The full
592 implementation of post-depositional processes into complex snow models may offer the opportunity to exploit
593 further snow pack and ice core observations for the reconstruction of climate and pollution.

594

595 *Code and data availability.* The snowpack scheme Crocus is integrated into the surface modeling platform
596 SURFEX developed by Météo-France. The SURFEX code is freely available via www.umr-cnrm.fr/surfex/
597 using a CECILL-C license. The snow pit (<https://doi.org/10.6096/parcs.12>, <https://doi.org/10.6096/parcs.13>) and
598 the meteorological data (<https://doi.org/10.6096/parcs.17>) are available from the PARCS data base ([www4.obs-](http://www4.obs-mip.fr/parcs/database/)
599 [mip.fr/parcs/database/](http://www4.obs-mip.fr/parcs/database/)). Precipitation data are available from the EBAS data base of the Norwegian Institute for
600 Air Research (ebas.nilu.no). BC data is available on request.

601
602 *Author contributios.* HWJ performed the snow sampling, the simulations, and the analysis and wrote the
603 manuscript. FO provided meteorological data for the simulations, advice during the analysis, and support in
604 writing the manuscript. SDC contributed to the snow sampling and analysis. PG performed the chemical analysis
605 of the snow samples. KE provided atmospheric BC data. WA provided precipitation data. PG, KE, and WA
606 contributed to the writing of the manuscript. MZ contributed to the snow sampling, performed the BC analysis of
607 the snow samples, and provided support in writing and designing the manuscript.

608
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610
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