

Interactive comment on “Oxidation of low-molecular weight organic compounds in cloud droplets: global impact on tropospheric oxidants” by Simon Rosanka et al.

Johannes Lelieveld

jos.lelieveld@mpic.de

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Compliments for the excellent article that represents a major step forward in the discussion of cloud chemical effects on tropospheric composition. The development of the JAMOC scheme, accounting for comprehensive VOC chemistry, and the successful implementation in the EMAC model is an important accomplishment. The use of JAMOC brings the model significantly closer to observations of VOCs and ozone. Impressive. The results on VOCs and OVOCs, notably of aqueous phase chemistry and considering that most clouds evaporate rather than precipitate, will also offer new angles of approach in studies of organic aerosols.

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It should be mentioned that this work was possible as it could build on the EMAC modelling framework, being the effort of a team (of which I am happy to be a member). It has set the stage for comprehensive, global atmospheric chemistry modelling, including the explicit and comprehensive account of VOCs and multiphase processes (e.g. Tost et al., 2007; Taraborrelli et al, 2009; Sander et al., 2011, 2019, Jöckel et al., 2010). I hope the article will be accepted for publication in ACP, while having a few minor comments in view of the interpretation of my past work.

I.27/28: This was posed by Lelieveld and Crutzen (1990), as HO₂ transfers to the aqueous phase, so that gas phase ozone formation through NO+HO₂ ceases and dissolved HO₂ (through superoxide) reacts with ozone, effectively turning O₃ production into O₃ loss. To a lesser degree this also applies to RO₂.

I.40-43, and I.480: Lelieveld and Crutzen (1990) concluded that net O₃ production at particular locations, being subject to cloud processing, can be reduced by 40% (comparable to your CAABA results). Liang and Jacob (1997) referred to the troposphere in the tropics and midlatitudes. On I.480 you are doing the same, although we did not predict a 40% global ozone reduction. Comparing the black and red (ScJAMOC) curves in the lower right panel of Fig. 2, O₃ production appears to be strongly reduced indeed. Even the results for ScSTa in Fig. 2 show a substantial reduction in O₃ production. Further, Lelieveld and Crutzen (1990) introduced the effects of NO_x decrease through nighttime heterogeneous loss of N₂O₅ on cloud droplets. A few years later it was shown that N₂O₅ is also significantly removed by aqueous aerosols, which moderates the impact of clouds on N₂O₅, NO_x and oxidants predicted by us in 1990.

References

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D. Taraborrelli et al. (2009) <https://acp.copernicus.org/articles/9/2751/2009/>

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P. Jöckel et al. (2010) <https://gmd.copernicus.org/articles/3/717/2010/>

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